



United Way of Forsyth County

Community-Wide Funded Programs 2020-2021

Our Mission

United Way of Forsyth County brings the community and its resources together to solve problems that no one organization can address alone.

Our Vision for Forsyth County

A world-class community where no one lives in poverty and EVERYONE holds the power to access opportunities and resources needed to thrive.

Over 61,000 Forsyth County residents are living poverty, including 1 in 4 children under the age of 18. United Way of Forsyth County’s devotion to fight poverty and its causes and consequences are reflected through our priorities to build a more stable, healthy, educated, and economically mobile Forsyth County. The following Community-Wide funded programs reflect this 4-pronged commitment.



STABLE FORSYTH

Families in our community experience basic challenges in creating a stable lifestyle while facing trade-offs in other areas such as housing, nutrition, and healthcare. About 1 out of 4 Forsyth County renters spend more than ½ of their income on their rent – that’s more than 13,670 households. About **16% of women** (25,382) have experienced intimate partner abuse in their lifetime. And about one in six children aged 3-17 have one or more developmental disabilities. The following programs have been designed to support a more **Stable Forsyth**.

(Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, The Women’s Fund of Winston-Salem. *Domestic Violence: The Economic Impact of an Intimate Crime*, CDC.)

Lead Agency: *American Red Cross*

Program Name: **Disaster Services**

Program Summary: Disaster Services spans the entire disaster cycle (prepare, respond and recovery). Disaster Preparedness is focused on increasing public awareness on how to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters. Disaster Response provides the tools to meet immediate disaster needs. Disaster Recovery assists clients in bridging what they can accomplish on their own and what is necessary for them to recover.

Lead Agency: *Bethesda Center for the Homeless*

Program Name: **Bethesda Center Emergency Day and Night Shelter**

Program Summary: Bethesda Center provides the only Day shelter in the area operating 365 days a year from 7:00 am to 6:30 pm daily, offering a variety of services (restrooms/showers, laundry facility, telephone access, mail delivery, etc.) and the only Emergency Night Shelter in the area serving men and women which operates 365 days a year from 7:00 pm to 6:30 am nightly. Supplemental services also include customized case management, a managed resource center and an on-site clinic serviced by Wake Forest Baptist Health. Bethesda Center’s goal is to provide Emergency Night Shelter for up to 100 guest and increased case management services.

Lead Agency: *The Centers for Exceptional Children*

Program Name: **Family Support Network (FSN)**

Program Summary: FSN programs support families through the years of early childhood and school age special education and continuing guidance as families enter the world of adult disability services. FSN provides support programs, information/referral services, and parent education- all designed to strengthen families.

Lead Agency: *The Centers for Exceptional Children*

Program Name: **Infant and Toddler Program**

Program Summary: Created for children from birth to 36 months, the Infant & Toddler Program (ITP) provides care and developmental support for those with disabilities or delays. Awarded the prestigious 5-star childcare rating, ITP staff has the advanced training and certifications to supply our children with the very best developmental and physical therapies in a hands-on, nurturing environment.

Lead Agency: *Enrichment Center*

Program Name: **Day Program and Community Services**

Program Summary: The Enrichment Center teaches independent living, health, finances, communication, employability, coping and problem solving, relationship and self-discovery skills. Currently serving 110 individuals, the aim is to build capacity over the next year. Services provided in the center are structured with an emphasis on the arts and one-on-one attention. Arts include pottery, painting, drawing, textile work, dance, culinary arts, voice and percussion ensemble, allowing the discovery of talents and interests allowing individuals to express themselves and learn meaningfully.

Lead Agency: *Experiment in Self Reliance*

Program Name: **Housing Services**

Program Summary: Housing Services works directly with the WSFC CoC Community Intake Center to place homeless families and individuals in safe, stable housing, while teaching skills that help clients remain stably housed. Program personnel contribute to the local housing inventory by cultivating relationships with landlords. Housing case management focuses on alleviating the conditions which led clients to become homeless through education, employment progression, income progression, budgeting, and personal counseling.

Lead Agency: *Family Services*

Program Name: **Vantage Point Children's Advocacy Center**

Program Summary: The Vantage Pointe Children's Advocacy Center provides a systematic multidisciplinary response to cases of child maltreatment. Services include forensic interviewing, multidisciplinary team staffing, victim advocacy, community resources referrals, and education to communities and professionals.

Lead Agency: *Family Services*

Program Name: **Victim Services**

Program Summary: Victim Services provides a continuum of services for victims of domestic violence - shelter, crisis intervention/safety planning, crisis lines, support groups, court advocacy & Rapid Rehousing. provides emergency shelter (staffed 24/7) to those fleeing domestic violence, stalking & human trafficking. Comprehensive trauma focused counseling services are further available through the Counseling Program at Family Services once needs of safety and stability are addressed.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Representative Payee Program**

Program Summary: The Representative Payee Program currently serves approximately 500 clients throughout 23 counties in North Carolina. Budgeting, bill-pay and financial coaching is offered to some of our community's most at-risk for financial exploitation due to mental health disorders, intellectual or developmental disabilities, or substance abuse disorders. Through these services, this program is able to help clients avoid homelessness, food insecurities and ensure basic needs are met.

Lead Agency: *Legal Aid*

Collaborating Partner: *Children's Law Center*

Program Name: **Legal Advocacy in Family Violence: Stepping Forward**

Program Summary: Stepping Forward's goal is to create stable lifestyles for families away from their abusers. Outcomes Specialists offer community resources to address issues that are common in domestic violence cases, including access to housing, applying for food stamps, and obtaining employment. Legal professionals also devote invaluable pro bono representation to victims in hearings to receive protective order.

Lead Agency: *Parenting Path*

Program Name: **Forsyth County Parent Support**

Program Summary: The Parent Support Program is comprised of 3 service components: Parent Aide, Positive Effective Parenting and Welcome Baby. The Parent Support Program provides appropriate and timely interventions to victims, families and abusers; and coordinate services to create maximum protections to victims. The Welcome Baby program provides home visitations to new parents in Forsyth County at risk of child abuse and/or child neglect.

Lead Agency: *Parenting Path*

Program Name: **STA Safe**

Program Summary: The STA SAFE Program provides intervention and treatment for sexual abuse including victims, siblings, and non-offending caregivers. The agency offers appropriate and timely interventions to victims, families and offenders; and coordinates services to create maximum protections to victims. This program benefits Forsyth County families who have children who have experienced sexual abuse, as well as families with youthful sexual offenders.

Lead Agency: Springwell Network

Program Name: Developmental Disabilities Residential and Training

Program Summary: This program provides adults with intellectual disabilities stable housing, educational services in life skills, literacy and natural supports and employment. The program is designed to help children and adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities as they work towards increased independence and community inclusion.

Lead Agency: *The Salvation Army*

Program Name: Food & Shelter-Center For Hope

Program Summary: The Center of Hope provides safe shelter, nutritious meals and professional counseling in support of overcoming homelessness. Just like any home, the Center for Hope purchases, prepares and serves food while offering bedding, toiletries, first aid, laundry and other necessary items for their residents. As part of a comprehensive plan to address the entire family and root causes of the crisis, clients are referred to Insight Human Services for mental and behavioral health services, allowing greater holistic care.



HEALTHY FORSYTH

Forsyth County ranked **31st** in North Carolina's ranking of health outcomes, an unfavorable position compared to NC's other urban counties. Understanding the root causes of vulnerability to poor health allows us to better serve the community as well-being is integral to strengthening communities.

The following programs have been designed to support a Healthier **Forsyth**.

(Source: County Health Rankings, 2019)

Lead Agency: *Amos Cottage*

Program Name: Therapeutic Day Program Services

Program Summary: Children eligible for day treatment include those experiencing severe behavioral challenges despite active professional support. The program employs a multi-disciplinary team approach, comprised of staff licensed in their respective fields, including a pediatrician who conducts extensive Developmental Behavioral Pediatric Assessments supporting the diagnostic process. The program also offers outpatient counseling supporting children as children begin to require less intense mental health support.

Lead Agency: *Bowman Gray Child Guidance*

Program Name: Mental Health Medication Management & Counseling

Program Summary: Bowman Gray Child Guidance seeks to provide comprehensive and special mental health services to children age 3-17. Using a multimodal treatment approach, management and counseling is responsive to children, their families, and the community. Services are comprehensive in nature and include psychiatric evaluation, medication management, individual & family therapy, and psychological testing.

Lead Agency: *Cancer Services*

Program Name: **Patient Advocacy & Minority Outreach**

Program Summary: With Patient Advocacy, Cancer Services meets financial, physical, and social needs of cancer survivors and families through a combined approach from a Patient Advocate team and staff. With financial assistance, Cancer Services targets individuals below a 200% Federal Poverty, including the un/underinsured, to ensure they have the same vital access to treatment medications and supplies. Cancer Services also provides educational programs and navigation to community resources in order to increase awareness of cancer screenings, early detection, healthy living, and utilization of care.

Lead Agency: *Family Services*

Program Name: **Counseling Services**

Program Summary: The Counseling Program strengthens an individual's and family's capacity for healthy functioning in relationships and our community. The program provides the foundation for extending services through collaboration both within our agency and in partnership with community organizations. Comprehensive mental health services are structured in such a way that expertise in specialized practice areas can readily be deployed in response to the specific needs of a broad array of collaborative partners.

Lead Agency: *Fellowship Home*

Program Name: **Comprehensive Relapse Preventions Program**

Program Summary: This program offers men devastated by substance misuse a two-year comprehensive relapse prevention program which includes up to nine months of residency followed by continuing care. The program's key components include: a therapeutic atmosphere of fellowship; weekly individual therapy and biweekly group therapy provided by certified substance abuse counselors; weekly individual meetings with a credentialed case manager; weekly art therapy; daily 12-step meetings to learn principles and build a recovery network for life; monthly meetings with an experienced budget counselor; and regular meetings with the Executive Director to evaluate progress towards personal goals.

Lead Agency: *Insight Human Services*

Program Name: **Forsyth Integrated Health Network**

Program Summary: The Forsyth Integrated Health Network (FIHN) is a collaborative array of services for adults in Forsyth County with both primary and behavioral health needs. As barriers are reduced and access is facilitated through a collaboration of support and referrals provided by clinically sound caretakers; these adults, who may not have health insurance or other public coverage, can receive care which reduces hospitalizations, incarcerations and morbidity, while improving work, educational and family status.

Lead Agency: *Mental Health Association*

Program Name: **Crisis Intervention Team, Mental Health Training for 1st Responders, Civic & Public Servants**

Program Summary: Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is a 5-day jail diversion training designed for law enforcement and other first responders designed to help first responders identify and help individuals in a mental health crisis through de-escalation techniques. Mental Health Trainings such as "Mental Health 101", Hearing Voices that are Distressing, Wellness Recovery Action Plan and more are designed to help non-licensed service professionals, civic and public servants that are typically shorter in length than CIT.

Lead Agency: *Mental Health Association*

Program Name: **Information & Referrals, Access to Mental & Behavioral Healthcare**

Program Summary: The MHA and its partnerships with The Parenting PATH and Amos Cottage help individuals and families access mental health and related services (e.g., substance use, guardianship, support groups, etc.) with a focus on those living with or affected by severe and persistent mental illness. MHA maintains and updates educational handouts and counseling listing agencies, in both English and Spanish, as well as offering multiple resources and referrals, offering individuals a choice in how they wish to access services. Follow-ups are provided by Peer Support Specialists, with quarterly progress presentations.

Lead Agency: *YWCA*

Program Name: **Gateway to Success**

Program Summary: Gateway to Success (GTS) is a partnership of the YWCA, Novant Health, and Wake Forest Baptist Health. The goal of the program is to help low-moderate-resourced participants with diabetes manage and improve their health through life-style changes including good nutrition, weight loss, exercise and behavioral health. The official GTS program includes an intensive year of life-style coaching by a team of behavioral health specialists, dietitians, wellness coaches, and fitness coaches. Participants receive membership at the Gateway, and a family membership if needed to encourage the individual's progress.

Lead Agency: *YWCA*

Program Name: **Hawley House**

Program Summary: Hawley House is the only state-licensed residential recovery facility in Forsyth County for women who have been diagnosed with a Substance Use Disorder. The program is very structured, to encourage women, age 18 and older who are no longer using drugs or alcohol, to become physically and mentally healthy. Residents have daily chores, are expected to abide by all house rules, and are expected to seek training and/or become employed while at Hawley House.



EDUCATED FORSYTH

In Forsyth County, **30.4%** of residents without a high school diploma experience poverty, while this number drops to **19.5%** once individuals obtain a high school degree or GED- exemplifying that **poverty rates decrease as educational attainment increases**. More access to better education is a foundational step to stronger communities. The following programs have been designed to promote a more **Educated Forsyth**.

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 1-Year Data, 2017)

Lead Agency: *Big Brothers Big Sisters*

Program Name: **Site Based Mentoring Program**

Program Summary: The Big Brothers Big Sisters Site Based program is a collaborative effort with several local school partners that provides supervised mentoring at school sites. The aim is to strengthen their presence in targeted communities by re-establishing the program at Ashley Elementary and launching a program at East Forsyth Middle School in order to serve more children who come from not only single-parent homes, but also those who have been identified by teachers and/or school guidance counselors as ones who would benefit from having an additional friend/mentor.

Lead Agency: *Crosby Scholars*

Program Name: **African American Males Pursuing Educational Dreams (AAMPED)**

Program Summary: AAMPED has boosted student success in Crosby Scholars and has helped more vulnerable students view college as a reality- an outreach which Crosby Scholars aims to expand. At school, AAMPED offers monthly “Lunch and Learn” programs on topics such as motivation, perseverance, and self-awareness; grade advisor meetings; college recruitment visits; and Crosby Club meetings. Evening programs include college nights at Winston-Salem State University and Forsyth Technical Community College, high school math tutoring, attending a Wake Forest University basketball game and Project Alpha programming about college life lessons in collaboration with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; manhood and more.

Lead Agency: *Crosby Scholars*

Program Name: **Crosby Club**

Program Summary: Crosby Club has been offered for two years, and Crosby Scholars aims to expand to Philo Hill and East Forsyth middle schools. A typical meeting includes a welcome activity; exposure to college in which Crosby alumni, teachers, or college representatives share about their college experience; and a main activity that focuses on leadership and character development, and introduction to careers. The Crosby Club uses the “Career and College Clubs” curriculum, based on 7th- to 12th- grade career and college readiness standards developed by NCCEP. Lessons address college and career readiness, academic preparation, leadership development, social and emotional learning, and professional etiquette.

Lead Agency: *Mediation Services*

Program Name: **Truancy Mediation**

Program Summary: Truancy Mediation addresses specific complaints of unacceptable attendance patterns by involving those students, their families, school social workers and other parties who may serve as resources. Mediation Services has traditionally served students between the ages of 6 and 15 in local public schools who have missed 10 days or more from school. Their primary service is a conflict resolution hybrid of mediation and arbitration that helps to lower prosecutions for truancy, as well as encourage plans to promote academic success while identifying challenges in the process and further resources for enhancing the student learning process.

Lead Agency: *The Salvation Army*

Program Name: **Ken Carlson Boys & Girls Club**

Program Summary: The Ken Carlson Boys & Girls Club serves youth ages 5-18 from 38 schools in the WS/Forsyth County School System. During non-school hours, the club provides a safe place with supportive adult mentors, peer friendships, and high-impact youth development programs. Emphasizing the importance and requirements of graduation from high school and the opportunities a post-secondary education can provide are both key aspects of the commitment to educational equity. Annual priorities include a focused curriculum including education and career development, character and leadership, health and wellness, the arts, sports and recreation.

Lead Agency: *Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools*

Program Name: **Project Graduation 2020**

Program Summary: Project Graduation: 2020 represents the next generation of strategies to impact student academic outcomes, promotion, and graduation. Since the 2006-07 school year, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools have been focused on increasing high school graduation rates. Over the last 10 years, the graduation rate has increased by 11.4%. Several years ago, the district and community partners set a 90% graduation rate goal. Middle Schools selected for Project Graduation 2020 include East Forsyth, Mineral Springs and Philo Hill Middle schools. The two levels of criteria for development of this program include 1) Selecting middle schools feed into high schools who have been below the district average for graduation rate and 2) Identifying students at those schools who exhibit risk indicators for not graduating. After-school, In-school and Saturday tutoring, and summer success programs are the strategies implemented at these three schools.

Lead Agency: *YMCA*

Program Name: **YMCA Achievers**

Program Summary: For 18 years, YMCA Achievers has worked to close the socioeconomic opportunity gap that exists among African American and Hispanic students. This program aims to help teens set and pursue higher educational and career goals resulting in high school graduation and acceptance into an institution of higher learning. Focusing on minority, at-risk students in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, Achievers participate in a combination of field trips/college tours, career counseling, cultural experiences, enrichment programming, leadership summits, financial literacy projects, character education, and career and college prep workshops.

Lead Agency: YMCA

Program Name: Summer Learning Academy

Program Summary: The YMCA of Northwest North Carolina aims to expand Summer Learning Academies (SLAs) to three Title 1, low-performing elementary schools in Winston-Salem: Diggs-Latham, Easton, and Ibraham. The 24-day (spanning 6 weeks) summer program, provided at no cost, consists of academic support, social and emotional Learning, leadership and character development, decision making, healthy life choices and family engagement. SLAs are designed to address socioeconomic disparities in education and ensure every child regardless of age, income or background, can learn, grow and thrive.

Lead Agency: YWCA

Program Name: Second Chance at Graduation

Program Summary: Within Second Chance at Graduation, Teen Court and Work & Earn It are two programs sponsored by the YWCA. Teen Court targets juvenile first-time offenders who have committed non-violent misdemeanors. In Teen Court, the juvenile is tried and sentenced by a jury of peers – previous Teen Court clients and volunteers -- to perform community service, to attend ARISE Life Skills seminars, and/or provide other types of restitution. Work & Earn It is a monetary restitution/community service program designed to reduce the number of youths who recidivate into the juvenile justice system. The target population is students between the ages of 10 and 17 who are on probation or diverted from juvenile court to fulfill their terms through community service and monetary restitution.

Lead Agency: YWCA

Collaborating Partners: *Big Brothers Big Sisters & Crosby Scholars*

Program Name: Best Choice Center

Program Summary: The YWCA's Best Choice Center is a year-round academic enrichment program, providing After School and Summer Camp programs for K-8 students from Community Wide and Place Matters schools. The mission is to help at risk children succeed academically and interpersonally. The Crosby Bigs for Success Program, which matches high school age Crosby Scholars with Best Choice students, provides mentors for the younger children. The Crosby Bigs are trained by Big Brothers Big Sisters to support "Littles" development of soft skills and promote K-12 success. After School and Summer Camp programs provide certified teachers, transportation, meals, field trips, and access to resources.

ECONOMICALLY MOBILE FORSYTH



According to a 2015 study, Forsyth County ranked **2nd worst** out of 2,478 counties across the country in **helping poor children climb the income ladder**. We know that our community can continue to do better in supporting one another- and the following programs have been chosen in reflection of our intention to build and support a more **Economically Mobile Forsyth**.

(Source: Harvard University, Equality of Opportunity Project, 2015)

Lead Agency: *CARes Project*

Program Name: **Car Ownership Program**

Program Summary: The Car Ownership Program's mission is to offer low interest car loans to credit-challenged, low income working adults. Through this program, customers learn to practice good money management skills, increase their credit worthiness and receive reliable transportation to get to work. Program activities include financial literacy and budgeting skills training, credit counseling, placement and service of a low interest loan for a car purchased from a reputable, franchise dealer. Each participant is assigned a Financial Coach who schedules, guides, and documents the progress and who continues to work with the participant for the duration of the loan.

Lead Agency: *Enrichment Center*

Program Name: **Employment Gateway**

Program Summary: The Enrichment Center provides employment training for adults with intellectual and physical disabilities through the Employment Gateway program, which is part of a nationwide, vocational rehabilitation network of services that helps adults with disabilities find full or part-time work. An Employment specialist helps pair the individual to a job that matches his/her skills and interests and provides on-the-job support until the individual can perform the job independently and successfully.

Lead Agency: *Experiment in Self Reliance*

Program Name: **New Century Individual Development Account (IDA)**

Program Summary: The New Century IDA program provides financial literacy training for low-to-moderate income residents of Forsyth County, preparing them to become first-time homeowners or small business entrepreneurs. The program teaches clients budgeting skills and how to choose and use credit and banking products, along with other important information about finances. Clients are provided with a success coach who supports the establishment and growth of their savings account, in which they will have saved \$1,500 by the time they have complete the program.

Lead Agency: *Experiment in Self Reliance*

Program Name: **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**

Program Summary: During the tax season, approximately 100 certified volunteers operate the 10-13 VITA Sites located around Winston- Salem, preparing electronic returns for about 4,000 low-to-moderate income taxpayers in Forsyth County each year. The program also now offers VITA Express, which allows participants to drop off documents for return preparation and return at a convenient time to sign and submit the forms.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Center for Homeownership (CHO)**

Program Summary: CHO's mission is to inform and prepare residents to be responsible homebuyers via comprehensive housing education, counseling, referrals, and other resources. CHO provides a one-stop source of information, education, pre-qualification and counseling services to potential home buyers through one-on-one sessions and group classes. It also serves as an advocate for affordable housing issues in the area.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Financial Management, Education & Debt Counseling**

Program Summary: Financial Management and Debt Counseling (FMDC) program provides Budget and Credit counseling to improve individual money management; Credit Report review to educate clients on improving their credit; Mortgage Default and Foreclosure intervention counseling to help borrowers identify their best choices; Financial Education to increase financial self-sufficiency; and Student Loan counseling to assist clients in determining their best repayment options and avoid default.

Lead Agency: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **Senior Financial Care**

Program Summary: The Senior Financial Care® (SFC) program has served Forsyth County residents age 60 and older for over 30 years. SFC was established to provide in-home money management services for seniors including: Check writing for bill paying, bank statement reconciliation, budget & credit counseling, debt negotiation, housing & Reverse Mortgage counseling, fraud awareness, insurance counseling and assistance in choosing Medicare supplemental plans.

Lead Agency: *Goodwill Industries of NWNC*

Collaborating Partner: *Financial Pathways of the Piedmont*

Program Name: **The Prosperity Center**

Program Summary: Since 2008, Prosperity Center has operated with the mission of “improving financial stability one step at a time”. The under/unemployed services include: vocational coaching; job readiness, advancement & retention training; skills training referrals; and access to more with a certified financial counselor. Individuals are provided resources to applicable State, Federal & private resources such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Medicaid, food/nutrition services, and veterans’ benefits.

Lead Agency: **YMCA**

Program Name: **Adult Literacy**

Program Summary: YMCA Adult Literacy offers a unique learning program for English as a Second Language (ESL) and Adult Basic Education (ABE) students, so that he/she can achieve job and personal goals including: entering employment, retaining employment, earning U.S. citizenship, passing job-related certifications, learning to read timecards and schedules, and mastering job-specific vocabulary. YMCA Adult Literacy staff help students set quarterly and longer- term learning goals, with two primary outcomes: 1) increase targeted literacy skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking), and 2) increase selected employability skills (computer, interviewing, job search).



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