# FY 16-18 BUILDING BLOCK AND FOCUS AREA INFORMATION IMPACT AREA: INCOME



The whole community benefits when more working individuals and families are able to stop walking a financial tightrope and get on solid ground. That's why we focus on lasting solutions that go beyond charity, because financially stable people are more likely to have access to quality health care, provide a good education for their children, and contribute to their local economies.

**SCOPE:** Financial stability is achieved when residents can pay for housing with enough income remaining to build assets

**VISION:** We envision a community where a cycle for financial success exists, that individuals and families can access in order to build long-term, economic independence

**GOAL STATEMENT:** Improve opportunities for Greater Stark County's residents in order to make informed decisions that promotes long-term sustain-ability. Connecting residents to resources and services that moves them towards financial stability and eventually to self-sufficiency.

## **GOAL:** By 2020...

> 70% of Stark County residents will spend no more than 30% of their income on housing

#### **IMPACT STRATEGIES:**

- > Job Training and Preparation Addressing multiple barriers can help people transition out of poverty and providing them with multiple services to address the barriers can provide them with the job readiness skills they need in order to secure employment and advance in their career.
- Asset Building Providing working families with appropriate financial products and easy, low cost opportunities for saving, combined with strategies and approaches to reduce their debt and expenses. And help them build a financial foundation that lends itself to savings and asset accumulation.
- Access to Affordable Housing Affordable housing occurs when rent and mortgage payments are less than 30 percent of the household monthly income, including utilities and for mortgages, property taxes.
- Financial Coaching Financial coaching is a client-driven process whereby participants set goals, commit to taking certain actions by specific dates, and are then held accountable by the coach.
- Household Stabilization Stabilization Services consist of on-going work with a client beyond basic emergency assistance that can include planning, budgeting, and benefit assessment, assistance with application for public benefits and connecting to resources, obtaining/retaining stable housing or shelter, safety services, medical assistance and budgeting. Programs identifying Household Stabilization must also identify and report on TWO of the six sub strategies:
  - Food Security
  - Emergency Assistance
  - Legal Assistance
  - Housing
  - Disaster Response
  - Safety

All programs that receive United Way of Greater Stark County funding under **INCOME** must be able to report on ALL of the indicators for one of the below strategies that you identify in your submission.

#### **JOB TRAINING & PREPARATION**

### Programs must report on the following indicators:

- # and % of individuals who improved their employability skills through pre and post testing
- # of individuals who started works skills training and % of individuals who completed the training
- # and % of individuals referred and linked to legal assistance to eliminate an employment barrier
- # and % of individuals who received a degree, certification or credential # and % of unemployed/underemployed individuals that obtained employment
- # and %of individuals who maintained employment, 30, 60, 90 days and 6 and 12 month % of individuals who improved their employment situation through increased hours, increased pay or promotion
- # of referrals made to outside agencies, organizations or services

#### **ASSET BUILDING**

# Asset building services- Applicable to Free Tax Preparation Programs Only Programs <u>must</u> report on the following indicators:

- # total prepared federal tax returns and # of total prepared state tax returns
- Total \$ of all tax refunds (federal, state, EITC, misc. tax credits
- # and % of taxpayers using direct deposit
- # and % of taxpayers using split deposit (multiple accounts)
- # of referrals made to outside agencies, organizations or services

# Asset building services- *Not Applicable to Free Tax Preparation Programs Programs must report on the following indicators:*

- # of and % with increase in credit score/understanding of credit score scores checked at entry and 12 months, if applicable
- % of individuals who acquire assets
- # and % of individuals who started/opened, maintain, and/or increase savings at 6 months and 12 months
- # and % of individuals who access public and/or employer benefits and total value of increased income supports per household
- # and % of individuals that accessed a credit/asset building financial product
- # of referrals made to outside agencies, organizations or services

## *Programs must report on the following indicators:*

- # and % of individuals exiting transitional/emergency housing to reside in permanent housing: a safe, clean and affordable place to live
- # of and % of individuals who increased knowledge by attending housing education through pre and post testing
- # and % of individuals that avoided eviction and or foreclosure
- # of and % of individuals who obtained and maintained safe, affordable housing
- # and % of individuals who eliminated a barrier to affordable housing
- # and % of referrals made to outside agencies, organizations or services

## **Financial Coaching**

## Programs <u>must</u> report on the following indicators:

- # and % of individuals that increase their financial knowledge through coaching and education pre and post testing or assessment
- # of and % with increase in credit score/understanding of credit score scores checked at entry and 12 months
- % of individuals maintaining their budgets
- # and % of individuals who improve debt to income ratio at 6 and 12 months
- # and % of individuals who identify short and long term goals
- # and % of individuals who reach financial goals by program completion
- # of referrals made to outside agencies, organizations or services

#### **Household Stabilization**

Programs that report under Household Stabilization must report on two of the six following categories.

## **Food Security**

*Programs must report on the following indicators:* 

- # of individuals linked to SNAP/ WIC benefits
- \$ of increased income supports per household
- # of households who received emergency food distribution services
- # of meals prepared and # of unduplicated individuals served a prepared meal
- # of households who have improved access to healthy and affordable food
- # and % of individuals provided food preparation coaching and nutrition education through pre and post testing
- # of connections made to outside agencies, organizations or services for stabilization

## **Emergency Assistance**

*Programs must report on the following indicators:* 

- # of households who called in for assistance
- # and % of households who received intake assessment
- # of households served with housing resources
- # of households served with food resources
- # of households served with utility resources
- # of households screened for public benefits
- # of household assisted with public benefits
- # of households who completed public benefit applications
- # and % of households who received public benefits
- # of households that increased non cash benefits
- # of households that were connected to outside agencies, organizations or services for stabilization

- # and % of households who received ongoing stabilization services through case planning and or case management
- # of households assisted with trips for employment (including bus passes)

## Legal Assistance – Stabilizing barriers and safety

*Programs must report on the following indicators:* 

- # of participants receiving brief legal services
- # of participants receiving legal representation
- # and % of households that had a case plan developed or received extended services to remove barriers

## **Housing**

*Programs must report on the following indicators:* 

- # of participants receiving emergency housing/shelter assistance
- # and % of participants moving from transitional housing to permanent housing
- # and % of participants connected to ongoing stabilization supports through case planning and management
- # and % of participants screened for public benefits
- # and % of participants assisted with public benefits
- # of participants receiving or maintaining benefits as a result of connection and intervention
- # of households that were connected to outside agencies, organizations or services for stabilization

### **Disaster Response**

*Programs must* report on the following indicators:

- # of participants receiving assistance after a disaster occurred
- # and % of participants who received more than one service
- # of participants prepared for a future emergency or disaster service
- # and % of participants connected to ongoing stabilization supports through planning and case management
- # and % of participants that were connected to outside agencies, organizations or services for stabilization

#### Safety

Programs must report on the following indicators:

- # of participants gaining safety from abuse during the year
- # and % of participants connected to ongoing support through case planning and management
- # and % of participants that developed safety plans
- # and % of participants connected to outside agencies, organizations or service for stabilization