

High Country United Way Goals

High Country United Way maintains our commitment to the Community Impact Process while continuing to provide for basic and emergency needs. Therefore we seek proposals that meet the goals identified by our Community Impact Visioning Councils as well as those that continue to meet basic and emergency needs. To emphasize our commitment to solving upstream problems identified by our Community Visioning councils we reserve 5% of our allocations for agencies [individually or collaboratively] who develop innovative approaches to solving these needs. Also, **Funding priority will be given to programs that use evidence informed strategies to achieve objectives.**

Our Community Impact and Community Needs Vision Statements

Income Stabilization: We envision a thriving community working together, fulfilling basic needs and creating economic opportunity for all.

Health: We envision an engaged, thriving community where the easy choice is the healthy choice, health is cornerstone for community decisions, and health needs are met locally and affordably.

Education: We envision a community where everyone has the opportunity for education, social, and emotional growth throughout their lives.

Basic and Emergency Needs: We envision a community working together to provide for its citizens unmet basic and emergency needs.

Strategies to Achieve Objectives

___ Fund initiatives to procure and maintain housing for individuals for which expenses do not exceed 30% or less of income; including increasing work force, low income, and income challenged housing as well as addressing existing substandard housing situations.

___ Fund programs for skill development/training initiatives that create better employment opportunities (Includes micro enterprises offering supportive employment opportunities that generate economic mobility.)

___ Fund initiatives that facilitate maintaining employment. (Includes affordable healthcare, flexible and affordable childcare/eldercare, and transportation services. Also includes offenders and substance abuse/addiction.)

___ Fund programs that provide substance use prevention and/or treatment and/or harm reduction. (Includes addressing the increasing prevalence of diverse forms of substance abuse by youth such as vaping.)

___ Fund programs that create and sustain healthy environments by increasing access to healthy foods and/or physical activity.

___ Fund programs that provide whole person care and increase access/reduce barriers to one or more of the following areas: medical, dental, behavioral healthcare, or other basic needs for achieving and maintaining health for the most vulnerable populations. (Most vulnerable populations include children and youth, especially those who have experienced trauma.)

___ Fund programs that address prevention of early childhood trauma, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and support healthy early childhood. (Early recognition of trauma is a key element of this strategy.)

___ Fund sustainable initiatives targeting at-risk populations that support early childhood education with specific focus on early literacy outreach.

___ Fund alternative programs for elementary, middle, high school, and adult aged individuals that will enable them to become high school completers and/or obtain employability skills through certification. (Includes, but not limited to; middle school career explorations programs, personalized plans for affordable post-secondary education opportunities or post-secondary pathways, paid and unpaid Internships, programs addressing infrastructure and/or social disparities such as access to broadband internet/low income limitations/ language.)

___ Fund basic human needs such as food, housing, clothing, etc.

___ Fund emergency needs encompassing safety, shelter, fuel, electricity, etc.