



Union County
**IMPACT
PLAN**
funded by **SHARE FOUNDATION**



STEPS WE TOOK TO GET HERE

From 1997 – 2022, SHARE Foundation has provided funding in the form of grants as an outreach into the community. To date, over \$8.5 million in grants has been paid to 93 different not-for-profit organizations for strategic and evidence-based initiatives. Since 1999, SHARE Foundation has partnered with and spearheaded assessments of health needs in Union County. In 2016 and 2022, almost 400 individuals from 11 sectors in the community along with research from University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), Centers for Disease Control, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and the Arkansas Department of Health determined latest trends.

According to the research released by RWJF in 2022, Union County is ranked among the least healthy counties in Arkansas (Lowest 0%-25%) for Health Outcomes and in the higher-middle range of counties in Arkansas (Higher 50%-75%) for Health Factors.

Health Outcomes represent how healthy a county is right now and reflects the physical and mental well-being of residents. Health Outcomes in the County Health Rankings looks at:

- Length of Life: measuring premature death and life expectancy.
- Quality of Life: with measures of low birth weight and those who rated their physical or mental health as poor.

Health Factors represents things we can modify to improve the length and quality of life for residents. A combination of multiple modifiable factors, from clean air and water to stable and affordable housing, need to be considered to ensure community health for all. The County Health Rankings illuminates opportunities for improvement by ranking the health of counties across four Health Factors:

- Health Behaviors: providing rates of alcohol and drug use, diet and exercise, sexual activity, and tobacco use.
- Clinical Care: showing the details of access to and quality of health care.
- Social and Economic Factors: rating education, employment, income, family and social support, and community safety.
- Physical Environment: measuring air and water quality as well as housing and transit.



From 2018–2022, evidence-based programming in six specific areas have been in place to proactively address root causes of issues in our community. Those areas were:

Community Involvement

1. Mentoring/role models
2. Re-entry
3. Neighborhood watches/clean neighborhoods

Family Support

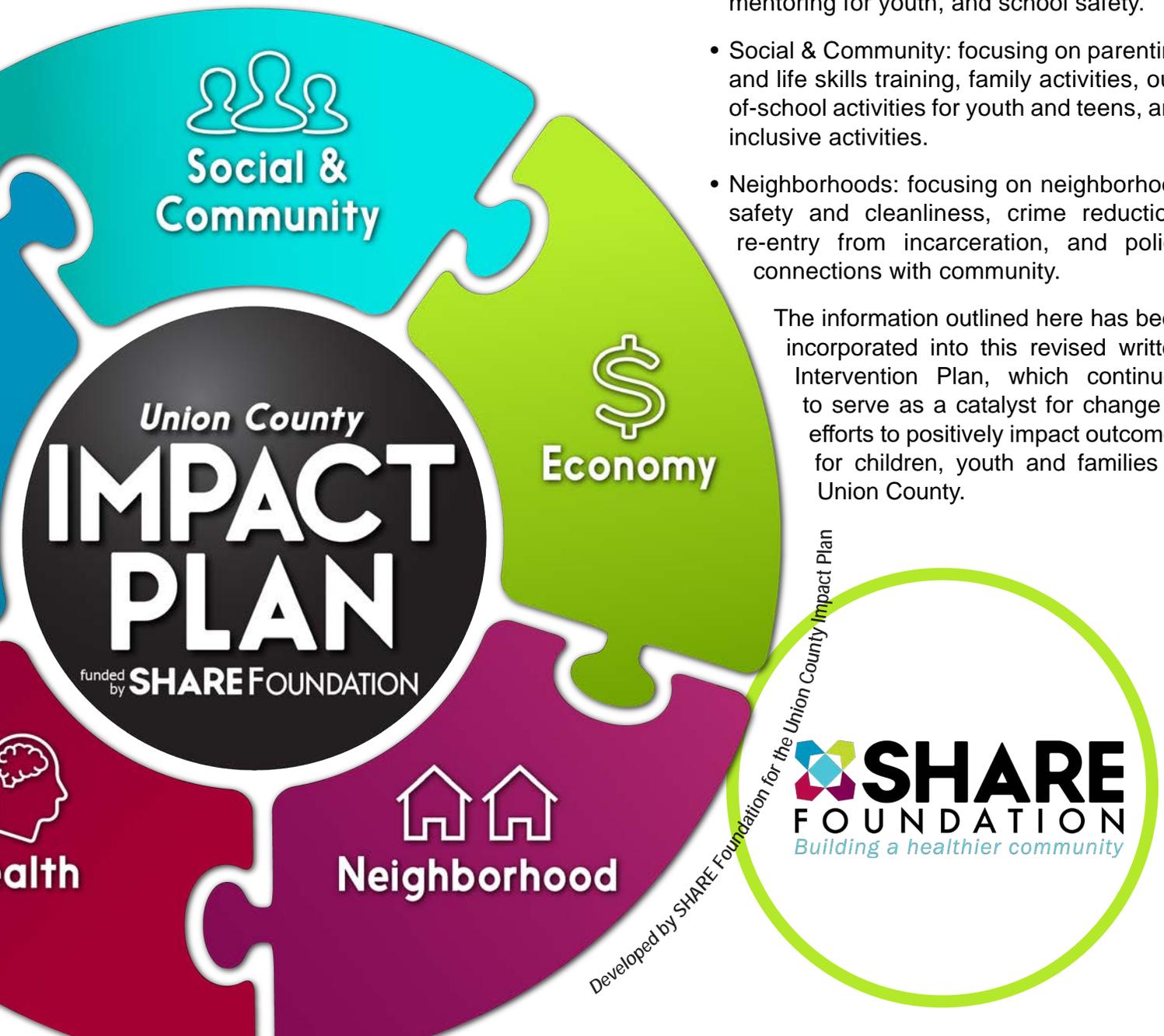
1. Parenting/life skills
2. Jobs/targeted education
3. Mental health/substance and drug abuse

The mission of SHARE Foundation is to identify, develop and foster programs and services that further the health and well-being of the people of our community and surrounding areas. Based on the 2022 reassessment of needs, SHARE Foundation will began intervention efforts in January 2023 through grant making that will be prioritized based on the five Social Determinants of Health focused on the particular health concerns and factors mentioned earlier.

Those Social Determinants of Health are:

- Health: focusing on health and mental health.
- Economy: focusing on reducing issues related to poverty.
- Education: focusing on adult education, mentoring for youth, and school safety.
- Social & Community: focusing on parenting and life skills training, family activities, out-of-school activities for youth and teens, and inclusive activities.
- Neighborhoods: focusing on neighborhood safety and cleanliness, crime reduction, re-entry from incarceration, and police connections with community.

The information outlined here has been incorporated into this revised written Intervention Plan, which continues to serve as a catalyst for change in efforts to positively impact outcomes for children, youth and families in Union County.



HOW WILL IT HAPPEN?

The Union County Impact Plan has been created in order to make available a community network of supports, opportunities and activities focused on specific, well-defined and jointly held outcomes and best practice strategies.

The County Impact initiative will convene working groups focused around the five social determinants of health that are identified in this Plan. These working groups will be charged with encouraging participation from community partners to implement this Plan.

If we, as a community, are truly committed to changing the odds for young people and families in need, we have to change the way we do

business. No single organization or person can do it independently. We must work together, like never before, to generate a greater impact than anyone could ever achieve alone.

In the words of **Margaret Mead**
“never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has”.

HOW CAN YOU HELP MAKE AN IMPACT?

The Union County Impact Plan now belongs to the people. It will lead our community in realizing our vision for children and families. We call on every resident, business, and church to become part of the movement to build a culture in which all Union County children, adults, and families have the resources and community support they need to succeed.





HEALTH PRIORITY

Targeted Outcomes

- Increased mental health treatment availability / awareness / reduction of stigma

Strategies

- Awareness campaigns
- Screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences, ACEs, in schools and organizations
- ACEs/Resilience training in schools, daycares, youth serving organizations, businesses and community
- Train the trainer education to expand capacity
- Physicians will screen for signs of mental health issues and refer accordingly
- Added support for recovery “communities”, those in domestic abuse situations

Targeted Outcomes

- Early substance use/misuse prevention training
- Increased refusal skills built
- Decreased usage

Strategies

- Implement youth prevention programming in every school for every grade
- Track progress with Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment Survey, pre and post-tests and required measurement tools outlined in MOUs with schools

Potential Partners

- School Districts
- Media
- Courts/Drug Court
- Churches
- Businesses / Nonprofits
- Cities of Union County
- Physicians
- Families
- Daycares
- Mental health providers
- Substance abuse providers
- AR Department of Health
- Law enforcement/
First responders
- Hospitals





ECONOMY PRIORITY

Targeted Outcomes

- Industry partners are invested in job shadowing, internships, and training for teens, young adults and those in re-entry
- Decreased unemployment rates
- Improved job readiness skills

Strategies

- Job fairs for students in schools and community
- Place an emphasis on non-college education / jobs
- Provide equal opportunity for those in re-entry
- Job readiness agencies will collaborate

Targeted Outcomes

- Increase affordable child care availability (more child care facilities accept vouchers)

Strategies

- Work to simplify application / reapplication process / provide navigators
- Connect child care providers with funding sources that pay for training of staff as required to move to upper levels

Targeted Outcomes

- Educate the community on poverty prevention and barriers to success

Strategies

- Provide poverty prevention programs to those in need such as financial literacy education
- Provide poverty and re-entry simulations to increase awareness
- Work towards a one-stop shop for resources
- Online digital resource built and used by all social service providers

Potential Partners

- AR Department of Human Services
- AR Department of Health
- Cities of Union County
- Businesses / Nonprofits / Banks
- South Arkansas Community College
- Workforce Development
- AR Community Corrections (Parole Officers)
- Child care facilities
- School Districts
- Media
- Chambers of Commerce
- Landlord Associations
- AR Rehabilitation Services
- Union County Detention Center
- Physicians





EDUCATION PRIORITY

Targeted Outcomes

- Community is educated on the importance of adult education
- Increased GED enrollment
- Increased adult literacy enrollment
- Increased career and technical education enrollment at South Arkansas Community College

Strategies

- Awareness campaigns
- Collaboration of agencies working for the same goals

Targeted Outcomes

- Increased mentor and tutoring programs for youth
- Increased number of male mentors
- Increased number of mentees

Strategies

- Collaborations of mentor organizations working together with other partners

Targeted Outcomes

- Improved school / campus safety (also include for younger children body safety, safe touch)
- Improved school attendance

Strategies

- Age appropriate prevention classes presented in all schools
- Involve students in making their schools safer
- More intentional work with School Resource Officers, SROs
- Discuss a “Business Brigade” of partners that walk the halls at schools as an added presence

Potential Partners

- School Districts / Teachers
- Businesses / Nonprofits
- Churches
- Police Depts.
- Community College
- Parents / Families
- Physicians
- Students
- Media
- Civic Organizations
- Volunteer Service Orgs.
- Veterans Groups
- Professional Associations



SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY PRIORITY

Targeted Outcomes

- Increased and improved access to parenting and / or life skills training

Strategies

- Build collaborations of organizations working with parents and kinship groups (such as grandparents as parents) to provide education and support for the “whole family”
- Develop fatherhood initiatives

Targeted Outcomes

- Safe activities in out-of-school time to keep youth and teens off the streets

Strategies

- Develop partnership with El Dorado School District to use the TAC House
- Develop collaborations with churches, schools and Boys & Girls Clubs to provide oversight and use of gyms across town including evenings, weekends and summers
- Teens not in the same social circles work together to develop a Youth Involvement Plan

Potential Partners

- School Districts
- Businesses / Nonprofits
- Families/Youth
- Physicians
- Churches/Pastors
- Libraries
- Media
- Veterans groups
- Chambers of Commerce
- Cities of Union County
- Union County Detention Center

Targeted Outcomes

- Inclusion

Strategies

- Ministerial “alliances” and pastors (all churches) align for the good of the community
- Nonprofits align for the good of the community to share, connect and provide resources
- Dedicated team of churches and nonprofits meet to identify problems and develop solutions
- Motivational speakers in schools promote inclusion/break down barriers of race, socioeconomic status, etc
- Grow Re-entry programs while incarcerated and after release
- Re-entry and Recovery coaches for adults
- Re-entry simulations
- Create community events where people who are isolated can meet others with the same issues





NEIGHBORHOOD PRIORITY

Targeted Outcomes

- Neighborhood “Watches” in all Wards of every city
- Reduced crime
- Reduced littering
- Improved police connections with community

Strategies

- Awareness campaigns
- Build buy-in of “watches” / “connections” in each city; building of collaborations in each city with proper entities
- Rewording “neighborhood watch” to be more positive and inclusive of all the things neighbors should do to keep each other safe
- Provide neighborhoods assistance in implementation

Targeted Outcomes

- Increased number of affordable activities for families to come together, not divide them on political, racial, or socioeconomic grounds
- Increased parks usage and ownership by neighborhoods

Strategies

- Promotion of family and youth activities across all social media platforms and information “chains” on a weekly basis such as (churches, DHS, food banks, banks, businesses with digital signs, school websites)
- Awareness of and better usage of community calendars available (or build those in each city)
- Solicit for more sidewalks, bike trails, walking trails, etc
- Get families involved in community gardening projects
- Build collaborations to develop and host activities for all ages and abilities

Potential Partners

- Cities in Union County to include mayors, police departments, aldermen and Chambers of Commerce
- Keep El Dorado Beautiful
- Parks & Playgrounds Commission
- Media
- Crime Stoppers
- Landlord Associations
- Residents
- Churches
- Businesses / Nonprofits
- Gardens coordinators

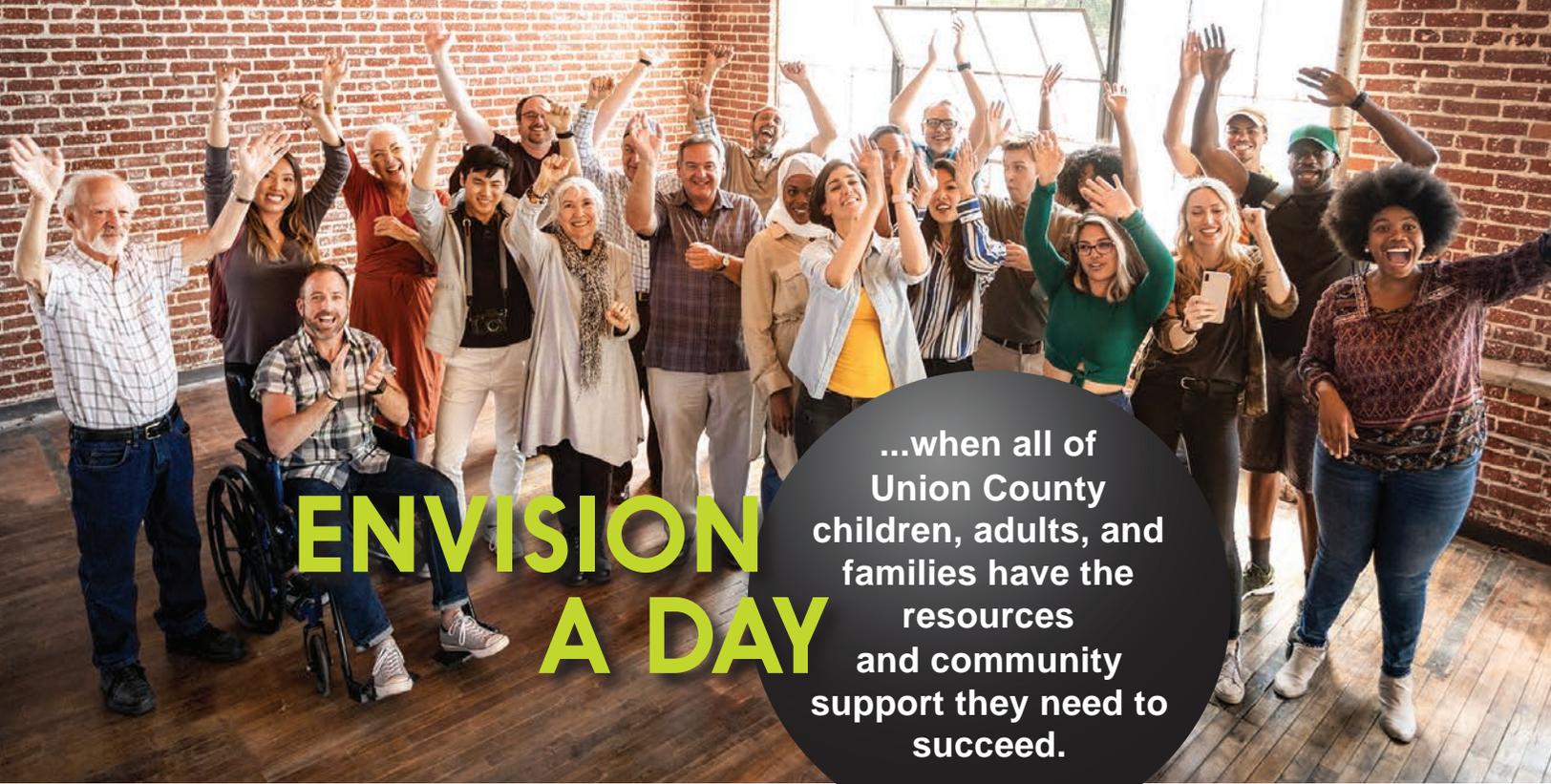


HOW CAN YOU HELP MAKE AN IMPACT?



Developed by SHARE Foundation for the Union County Impact Plan

 **SHARE**
FOUNDATION
Building a healthier community



ENVISION A DAY

...when all of Union County children, adults, and families have the resources and community support they need to succeed.



ENVISION living in a community that doesn't lose kids or adults to abuse, addiction, poverty, or crime.



ENVISION a community where a new generation will become the best and the brightest regardless of personal situations.



ENVISION a greater number of healthy, happy and successful adults staying in Union County to raise their families and build their careers.



ENVISION a community that helps those who are coming out of incarceration and abusive situations to become successful and productive community and family members.



Then **ENVISION** families who will continue to make Union County a model community and...

Finally, **ENVISION** a community that works together to make all of this happen.



DEBBIE WATTS
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