UNITED WAY INITIATIVES AIM TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE AND RESOURCES FOR SUCCESS

**LAUNCH:** The cost-sharing college and career program is for students with strong work ethics from low-income households, many of whom are first-generation college attendees. The program’s Education Account, which covers tuition, fees, books, and supplies, provides an 8-to-1 match: the participant saves up to $500 and receives up to $4,000 of matching funds.

“It not only made college possible, but it definitely set up foundational money-saving skills.”
– Will, LAUNCH recipient

**Dolly Parton Imagination Library:** Each month, the program mails high-quality and age-appropriate books to the homes of children up to the age of 5. United Way of Greater Kansas City’s Women United donor network provides ongoing volunteer support in conducting library enrollment events in school districts throughout the metro.

*Since 2000, more than 85 million books have been mailed to children worldwide through Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, including more than 6,500 in Greater Kansas City.*

**Financial Stability:** To succeed long-term, our community’s residents must be financially secure. We fund programs that support emergency assistance, adult education, fight to end generational poverty and more. Programs like The Financial Opportunity Center provide a model that helps families move from being spenders to savers and investors.
Promise 1000: This home visitation initiative connects the region’s most vulnerable parents to resources in the beginning years of a child’s life – the first 1,000 days of life. Home visitors assist parents on topics related to child safety, health care and development as a means to prevent medical, psychosocial and developmental problems. This strengthens the emotional bond between parent and child and provides information and skills that help children reach their full potential.

“They want to guide, help and teach you about developing your child. It takes a village. It really does. And if you don’t have a village, Promise 1000 helps provide that.” – Stephanie

Success by 6: United Way’s network of Success by 6 Resource Centers provide early learning resources funding supervised play sessions and a developmental toy lending library for parents and caregivers so more young children have the experiences that are essential to healthy human development beginning at birth. All play sessions and materials are available for checkout free of charge.

United Way of Greater Kansas City