

Expanding Access to Healthcare in Union County

The Union County Library System (UCLS) will leverage the library and its partnerships to expand broadband internet and physical library service locations in order to improve access to healthcare in Union County. With this the library will expand to between 4 and 9 new micro-branch sites. In addition, the library will hire a full time licensed social worker to manage the micro-branch sites. The social worker will focus on families for case management and counseling, specifically working to build a stronger partnership with the school district to help families of children with learning differences and special needs. The social worker will also identify high need populations and gaps in services and will establish partnerships and procedures to address these needs.

Project Aims

- Provide access to vocational, training, and higher education programs that will provide every student and community member the opportunity to develop skills that match with the jobs that are available to them.
- Coordinate and establish resource development opportunities and dedicated funding sources that communities can use to address their unique workforce development, growth, and quality of life challenges.
- Foster the development of sustainable financial models for communities, supplemented by sufficient community training specific to leveraging and aligning funding from income generation, public support, and private sources to sustain local projects and programming.

Successes

- UCLS has successfully recruited a qualified social worker
- Working to set up one site located at the detention center and implement an agreement with another site- a fire station with no internet access

Future Directions

- Continue to identify partner agencies and volunteers to help with ongoing expansion and maintenance of services as part of sustainable development.
- Create documentation of program development, implementation, and outcomes to document best practices

Union County Library System

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