

# RAVI RESPETO | CEO UNITED WAY OF GREATER CHARLOTTESVILLE

# **FY 23-27 STRATEGIC PLAN**



**OUR VISION: A STRONG, EQUITABLE COMMUNITY WHERE EVERY PERSON THRIVES** 

# Strategic Plan

2023-2027

The over-arching goal is to eliminate barriers for minority and economically-disadvantaged populations and enable them to achieve financial stability and thrive economically. This may be achieved through coordinated service delivery among peer agencies supported by task force coalitions focused on long-term, systems-level change. Through this, we may begin to eliminate a dependency on these services such that individuals can thrive economically and become financially stable.

### OUTCOMES



Increase by 10% lowincome kindergartners who pass developmental benchmarks.



Build a more connected community through a deepened understanding of race and equity.



Help lift 1,800 families (including at least 630 black families) out of poverty.

### IMPACT



### School Readiness

Close the opportunity gap by promoting strategies to provide all children with the most appropriate and effective early services, supports, and high-quality early childcare and education.



### Connected Community

We connect, convene, and support the collaboration of organizations in our community. Among this network, we are able to identify needs in the community and work toward shared goals.



### **Financial Stability**

Help adults who are on the path to becoming financially stable and economically independent by supporting customized, holistic solutions that address obstacles encountered along the way.

### ENABLERS



### **Inclusive Excellence**

Inclusive Access Climate & Education Infrastructure & Investment Community & Partnership



### **Operational Excellence**

Team Development Policies Operating Practices



### Envision Campaign, Development & Org Capital

Strong financial resources through private philanthrophy, endowment, foundation, and government grants.



# A More Equitable Charlottesville

ENVISION: A More Equitable
Charlottesville is a cross-sector
initiative of United Way of Greater
Charlottesville (UWGC) that builds upon
our organization's primary impact areas—
Financial Resiliency, School Readiness,
and Connected Communities—to
leverage the power and expertise across
Charlottesville's social impact sector
in a coordinated approach to address
generational poverty.



# **GOAL ONE**

Help lift 1,800 families—including at least 630 Black families—out of poverty in Thomas Jefferson Planning District (TJPD) by 2027.

# **GOAL TWO**

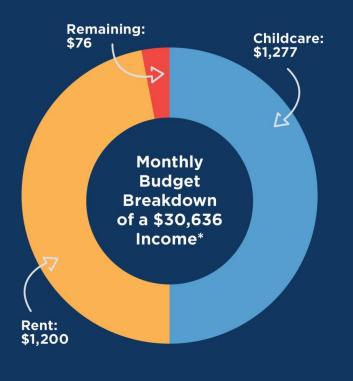
Increase by 10% kindergartners from economicallydisadvantaged families who pass developmental benchmarks by 2027; increase the number of Black kindergartners who pass by 20%.

# **GOAL THREE**

Build a more connected community through a deepened understanding of race and equity.

# Poverty in Charlottesville

17% of families in our region cannot afford the essentials of life.



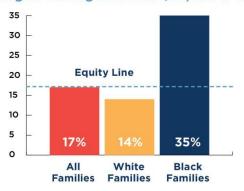
\*Local jobs in this salary range include Certified Nurse Assistant, Receptionist, and Groundskeeper.

Left: United Way of Greater Charlottesville, 2021

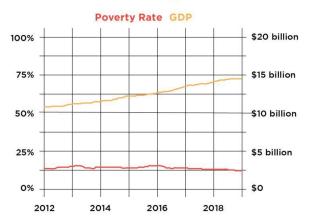
Top Right: Network2Work@ PVCC, 2021

Bottom Right: United States Census Bureau, 2019

### Percentage of Families in the Charlottesville Region Making Less than \$35,000 a Year



### Poverty Rate & GDP of Thomas Jefferson Planning District



# Key Poverty Indicators a Focus on Equity



HOUSING



24% of Black families own their home

50% of White families own their home

1 in 4 Black homeowners moved or lost their home between 2000 and 2018. ACCESS TO CAPITAL

12.4%

the denial rate for Black loan applicants



4.5%

the denial rate for White loan applicants



EARLY

**EDUCATION** 

104%

lower scores for Black children than White children on kindergarten literacy assessments

145%

more likely to fail kindergarten literacy assessments if economically-disadvantaged



**HEALTH** 

9%

shorter life span for Black individuals than White individuals

74.7 YRS average life expectancy of Black individuals

81.2 YRS average life expectancy of White individuals

Charlottesville Low-Income Housing Coalition, 2020

Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, 2021

United Way of Greater Charlottesville, 2021

Thomas Jefferson Health District, 2019



# Goal One

Help lift 1,800 families—including 630 Black families—out of poverty in TJPD by 2027

### 2019:

# **Nine Core Members Convened**

Charlottesville's Financial Resiliency Task Force (FRTF) is a collaboration of nine core organizations serving the Greater Charlottesville community.

### **UWGC Role:**

### **Backbone & Service Provider**

UWGC serves as the centralized organizer of responsibilities for the work of FRTF.

# **Distinguishing Factors of the FRTF Approach**



Target population via financial resiliency metrics



Shared data between partners & 3-year client commitment



Personalized goals and support for families

### The FRTF Process

# Family of 3 (Mother + 1 Child + Toddler)





INCOME: \$30,000

**CREDIT SCORE:** 500

HOUSING: Subsidized

CHILDCARE: Subsidized; struggles with co-pay

TRANSPORTATION: Unreliable car; high interest rate loan



Family works with FRTF organizations \*

with specific, coordinated services to target barriers to financial resiliency.

### **AFTER**



INCOME: \$45,000 **CREDIT SCORE: 630** 

HOUSING: Private rental; pathway to home

ownership

**CHILDCARE**: Receives support for co-pay

TRANSPORTATION: Reliable car: affordable loan





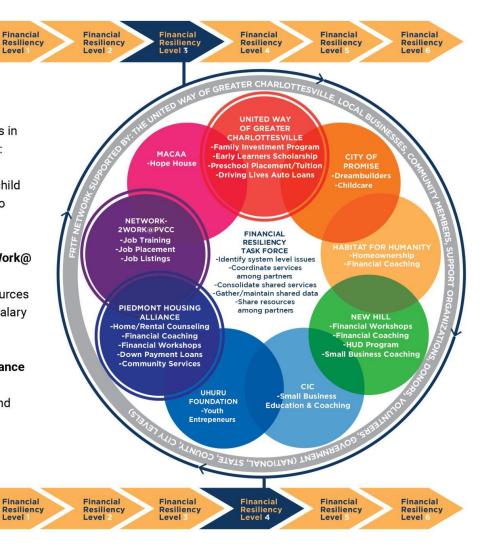
After 1-3 years, effects of partnership result in higher Financial Resiliency Score, and ultimately, financial independence.



Level

- · UWGC for child care and auto assistance
- · Network2Work@ **PVCC** for job training resources to increase salary
- Piedmont **Housing Alliance** for home ownership and financial counseling

Level



# **ENVISION Pilot:** Year One Results

A Snapshot of Key Indicators for 2021 **Participants** 

While ENVISION is focused foremost on Greater Charlottesville, partners will seek to determine metapatterns in data collection and evaluation with intent to scale the program to other regions.

# 11 TOTAL FAMILIES

1 SINGLE GRANDMOTHER | 8 SINGLE MOTHERS | 2 MARRIED COUPLES

AT END OF FY21

13% INCREASE

in average credit score (from 542 to 611)

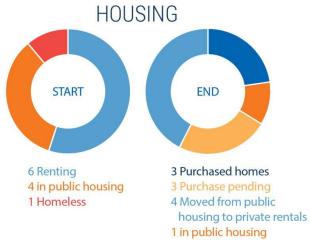
**12% INCREASE** 

in average monthly \$2,467 to \$2,750)

19% INCREASE

in average hourly wages (from \$14.58 to \$17.37)





### HEALTHY DEBT

\$281,708 to \$996,456

Total increase, including 3 mortgages, 3 reliable used vehicles financed through Driving Lives Forward, 2 new vehicles

**BAD DEBT** 

**\$80,211** to **\$34,282** 

Total decrease

# **FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM**

# Habitat for Humanity preparing up to 20 nominations:

# Up to 15 participants from the Pathways program

- Program prepares participants for home ownership program
- FIP participation allows creation of family action plan to move to new tier of financial stability prior to home ownership by decreasing debt/increasing income

# Up to 5 participants from Southwood

- These families have been approved for apartments in redevelopment based on their down payment/mortgage capacity
- Because of family size, they have the opportunity to "buy up" to a larger townhome or stand-along home
- Participating in FIP will allow family to increase down payment/mortgage capacity via matched savings





# Meet Kizzy

"No matter how hard we worked or how many jobs we had, we just couldn't keep up with the rent."

- Before: In search of a "forever" home
  - Single mother of 3
  - Hotel housekeeper
- FRTF Collaborative Services (2018-2021)
  - Financial coaching
  - Matched savings
  - Affordable line of credit
  - Support for continuing education
- After: Purchased first home! (March 2021)
  - Owns private cleaning business
- Preparing for medical billing/coding exam

# **DRIVING LIVES FORWARD**





**Driving Lives Forward connects** economically-disadvantaged families with reliable vehicles and affordable auto loan financing, providing not only safe transportation, but, importantly, a way to establish sustaining employment and create or improve credit history – critical for access to affordable capital. This unique partnership relies on an equity framework to support families and individuals in the removal of transportation barriers as they seek progress on the road to economic resiliency.

# **DRIVING LIVES FORWARD: CLIENT STORY**

Applied for a car loan with Carter Myers at 15.95% interest, \$2,000 down and a monthly payment of \$443 for a 2016 Sonata at \$17,648.

Referred to DLF, received \$2,000 down payment assistance, 5% loan, and reduced monthly payment of \$314 for 48 months, a monthly savings of \$161.

Former Network2work client who recently earned a Certified Nursing Technician license & new job at UVA working evening and night shifts, so a vehicle is required.

Increased her income to \$15/hour with benefits and moved from public housing to a rental unit.

DLF will allow a greater margin in monthly income but will still be tight for a single mother with rent, car insurance and car payment; 69% of monthly income prior to utilities, food, medical, taxes, gas, repairs, living expenses associated with having a child in school.





# Goal Two

Increase by 10% kindergartners from economically-disadvantaged families who pass developmental benchmarks by 2027; increase the number of Black kindergartners who pass by 20%

# Increase the number of children receiving early education

- Go2Grow
- Early Learners Scholarships

# **Elevate quality of early education providers**

- Preschool Development
- Mixed Delivery Grants

# Identify, develop, and leverage resources to meet rising costs

• Ready Regions Blue Ridge (\$2M for 21 localities)

# **READY REGION BLUE RIDGE**



In December 2021, UWGC was awarded the lead agency for Ready Region Blue Ridge, a geographic region covering 21 Virginia localities. The intent of Ready Regions is to bring access to early education to every child in Virginia regardless of race, ethnicity, economic status or place of residence.

The Virginia Department of Education and the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation have oversight of the program.



# Ready Region Will Help Every Virginia Community Be:

### Accountable:

Virginia's early education system must prepare children for success

### **Parent-Centered:**

Families must be engaged in designing a system that works for them

# **Responsive:**

Parents must be able to choose the childcare they want and need

### Reliable:

Early education programs need supports to delivery quality services

### **Bold:**

Every community in VA should be a place where families can thrive

# **READY REGION BLUE RIDGE**



# Who will be Included?



Lead organizations must partner with school divisions, social and human services, quality improvement networks, early education programs, and other public and private organizations involved in the early childhood system.

Region	Lead Organizations			
1 - Southwest	United Way Southwest Virginia			
2 - West	United Way Roanoke Valley			
3 - Southside	Smart Beginnings Danville Pittsylvania			
4 - Central	Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond			
5 - Southeastern	EVMS Minus 9 to 5			
6 - Chesapeake Bay	Smart Beginnings Virginia Peninsula			
7 - Capital Area	Fairfax County Office for Children			
8 - North Central	Coming soon!			
9 - Blue Ridge	United Way of Greater Charlottesville			



# **MIXED DELIVERY**



The Mixed Delivery Program allows for parent choice among high quality options that meet the needs of their child and family. This program, now codified by Virginia as a sister program to the Virginia Preschool Initiative, works to address inequities in early education by increasing access and funding for preschool slots in private early care and education programs. UWGC was allocated 77 slots in FY22 and has been allocated 127 slots for the FY23 renewal period. New in FY23 is an Infant-Toddler Mixed Delivery Pilot funded by the VA Department of Education. UWGC is one of three organizations in the state selected for this pilot and has been allocated 75 of the 200 pilot slots.

### **FY22 PROGRAM STATISTICS**



\$30,500

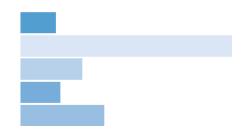
Median household income of a Mixed Delivery Program family



**77**%

Percentage of students at or below 200% of federal poverty level

### RACE/ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN



8% Asian

48% Black or African American

14% Hispanic or Latino

9% Multi/Bi-racial

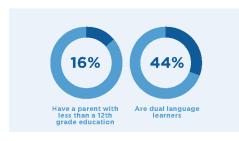
19% White, not Hispanic

# **COORDINATED ENROLLMENT**

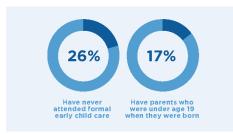


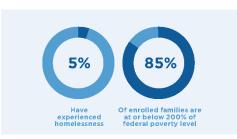
UWGC developed its Coordinated Enrollment, or single-point-of-entry program, that was deployed in all public preschool programs in Charlottesville/Albemarle for the current school year. Applications for all 3 and 4 year-olds wanting to enroll in the Charlottesville or Albemarle School System's public preschool programs, MACAA Head Start or the community Mixed Delivery program managed by UWGC were accepted and processed for eligibility through this online system last spring.

The single-point-of-entry allows a parent a convenient and efficient way to apply. In addition, navigators are available for parents who require assistance or who may have questions about the programs and eligibility.





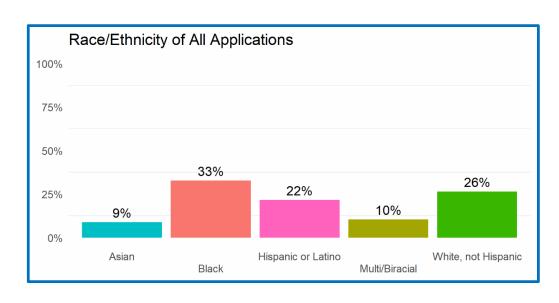




# **COORDINATED ENROLLMENT: BY THE #s**



# **COORDINATED ENROLLMENT – School Years 21/22 and 22/23**



# Other Indicators # of families experiencing homelessness: 40 # of parents under age 19 at child's birth: 33 # of single parent households: 1,084 # of parents with <12th grade education: 310

\*Total applications: 2,377 over 2 years

# **EARLY LEARNER SCHOLARSHIPS**



Cost of care continues to increase and continues to be exacerbated by COVID. Pre-COVID, the cost of infant care rose from \$40+ per day to \$50+per day. Now infant rates range from \$55-\$63/day with one provider recently increasing their rate to \$73/day, costing families \$14,300 to \$16,380 per year. A single parent making \$28,000 per year will pay 53%-60% of their annual income for infant care without financial assistance. Many parents resort to friends and family for childcare, keeping their children out of the high-quality environment that will help minimize the impact of living in poverty and help these children arrive at kindergarten better prepared to learn.

38 scholarships maintained for FY22

54 families benefitted from scholarships

Average annual income < \$28,000

125% of Federal Poverty level



# **SANTA FUND**

FOR SCHOOLKIDS

Annual partnership with Daily Progress & WINA (separate from UWGC annual campaign)

Provides essentials like clothing, shoes, medicine, eyeglasses, and school supplies/books for schoolchildren in need in our community.

\$213,525

FY23 total raised



# **IMPACT GRANTS**



### **Financial Stability Impact Funding**

PROJECT	INVESTMENT	BENEFICIARIES	STRATEGY
New Hill Development Corp	\$25,000	275	Financial literacy & asset-building for adults
Piedmont Housing Alliance Housing & Financial Coaching	\$25,000	825	Financial literacy & asset-building for adults
Habitat for Humanity Pathways to Housing	\$30,000	27	Financial literacy & asset-building for adults
Community Investment Collaborative Entrepreneurship Program	\$30,000	85	Employment & improved-employment pathways for adults

# School Readiness Impact Funding

PROJECT	INVESTMENT	BENEFICIARIES	STRATEGY
Piedmont YMCA Early Learning Center	\$30,000	108	High quality early care & education interventions including socio-emotional skill-building under the age of five (evidence-based or best-practice)
MACAA Extended Day & Summer Enrichment Program	\$30,000	117	High quality early care & education interventions including socio- emotional skill-building under the age of five (evidence-based or best-practice)
Child Health Partnership	\$40,000	500	Evidence-based home-visiting

TOTAL GRANT INVESTMENT \$210,000

TOTAL GRANTS FUNDED 7

FY22 BENEFICIARIES 1,937

No MBA grants awarded in FY22 (MBA COVID Assistance grant in FY21 and back to UWGC/MBA awards FY23)

# Goal Three

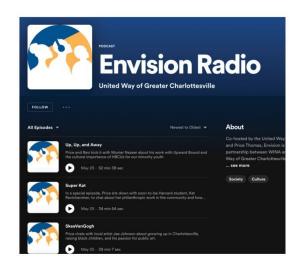
# Build a more connected community through a deepened understanding of race and equity

# **Community Table**



**Community Table** brings people together a share a meal and have conversations about race and equity.

### **Envision Radio**



**ENVISION Radio** hosts candid conversations with Black community leaders about economic mobility and opportunities in education, business, and health.

### **Color Cville**



**Color Cville** introduces our youngest leaners to the complex history of our hometown through the pages of a print and digital coloring book.

# **FALL PARTNERSHIPS**

























