



## United Way Council and Committee Descriptions

**Women in Philanthropy United Way Council and Committee Representatives are liaisons to the WIP Grant Committee. In addition to their council or committee duties, they are responsible for sending a bi-annual report to the WIP Grant Committee on their group's progress.**

The **Financial Stability Council** (formerly the Food, Shelter, Safety and Transportation Council) focuses on ensuring an adequate safety net for people in crisis while creating the “ladders” needed to achieve long-term self-sufficiency and economic independence. The FS Council recognizes that meeting basic needs and preventing crisis situations builds stronger, more stable families and individuals. However, moving beyond crisis situations to long-term self-sufficiency including financial stability and stable affordable housing are the next steps to building a stronger community. The Council meets approximately six times a year and meetings typically last 90 minutes.

The **Education Council** (formerly the Education, Jobs and Life Skills Council and the Success by Six Council) seeks to assure all citizens receive an education that allows them to achieve self-sufficiency and recognize their potential, and all children from birth to age six have the positive and enriching experiences necessary to begin school prepared to succeed. The council has elected to support a continuum of services for youth ranging from early childhood, adolescence and early adulthood. Youth often need attention at key transition points – from birth to age six; from elementary to middle school; from middle school to high school; and from high school to healthy young adulthood and beyond. At-risk youth need additional assistance and champions to achieve these successful transitions. Parents and families that are educated and employed with incomes above poverty level are critical to the cognitive, emotional and physical well-being of their children. Caring community volunteers can also play a significant role. Key transition points for at-risk youth include: reading proficiently by third grade, moving from middle to high school, completing high school, entering post secondary education and entering the workforce. With families, government, business, voluntary and community sectors stepping up to the plate and working together, we believe more of our citizens can be successful. The Council meets approximately six times a year and meetings typically last 90 minutes.

The **Health Council** (formerly the Health and Recovery Council) seeks to ensure access to and use of health care to promote wellness in the Midlands. The HR council recognizes that good health and wellness are essential not only to personal quality of life but also productivity and engagement in the larger community. The council promotes health and wellness through two key strategies increasing access to and use of health and dental care while minimizing the effects of unmanaged chronic disease and maximizing health and independence for seniors. The Council meets approximately six times a year and meetings typically last 90 minutes.

The **Community Impact Committee** oversees the implementation of UWM's Community Impact agenda including setting its strategic direction; integrating the work of the community councils and other impact committees; and, in general, supporting the mission and goals of UWM. The primary responsibilities include ensuring UWM investments of human and financial resources; improve the health and social well being of the community; and strengthen our agency partners. The Committee meets approximately six times a year and meetings typically last 90 minutes.



**Evaluation Volunteers** are an essential component of the community impact process. Evaluation volunteers review programs and proposals to assure UWM spends community resources wisely and that UWM-supported programs deliver expected results. Evaluation service is conducted from February through May.