FY 2018 Community Impact Priorities

“We fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community. We rise or fall together.” (United Way Worldwide)

We start this year with urgency and optimism. Our commitment is unwavering to use all of our creativity, resources, and will to create opportunity for all people. For fiscal year 2018, this means organizing our work around three priorities:

1. CONTINUING EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED WORK
   In a time of uncertainty, United Way continues to deliver and support critical services that meet basic needs and open doors to economic mobility.
   - Early Head Start provides full-day, full-year child care and comprehensive support services for infants and toddlers and their families
   - Building resiliency in children and families in the eight New Haven Trauma Coalition schools and through afterschool grants that focus on academics and social/emotional wellbeing
   - Free Tax Preparation for lower-income residents through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
   - Removing barriers to help formerly homeless families in Secure Jobs get and maintain employment
   - Managing the regional Coordinated Access Network to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring

2. EVOLVING EFFORTS TO MEET EMERGING NEEDS
   Our community continues to change, as does our understanding of how to create change on big issues. Combining our partnerships, resources, and the latest practice on what works, United Way is advancing initiatives in Education, Health, and Financial Stability.
   - New Haven Secure Start is reaching parents and caregivers to create a culture that supports and promotes healthy attachment
   - The Coordinated Access Network is looking for new ways and partners to prevent youth homelessness
   - Your Money Your Goals training for nonprofit staff will be embedded into key United Way partnerships to help more families achieve financial stability
   - Our long-time funding of emergency food services is transitioning into community-specific strategies to fight hunger and promote children and family’s success

3. LISTENING AND LEARNING
   United Way is most effective when we are in the shared space of meeting community needs, reflecting donors’ interests, and utilizing our skills, know-how, and relationships. To be successful, we will continue with formalized listening sessions, such as the In It Together effort as well as impromptu listening and learning.

   Our volunteers, partners, staff, and stakeholders are both an important audience and an entrée into new people and partnerships. The onus is on our Community Impact team to instigate listening, document our learnings, and consider with our constituents how that shapes United Way’s agenda as we approach our second century in greater New Haven.