Three year grants are given to local non-profits to address the priority goals set by United Way through careful needs assessment and partner input. They are allocated through a fund distribution process involving community volunteers and board members.

**SCHOOL READINESS**
- Friendship House Preschool
- Young Families Early Head Start
- YWCA - Childcare

**SCHOOL SUCCESS**
- Boys & Girls Club
- Friendship House - After School Program
- Tumbleweed

**CRISIS STABILIZATION**
- Family Service
- HRDC - Wheels to Work
- Yellowstone CASA
- YWCA - Transitional Services

**SENIOR INDEPENDENCE**
- Big Sky Senior Services
- Adult Resource Alliance - Meals on Wheels

**UWYC SHORT TERM OUTCOMES**
- Improved Kindergarten readiness
- Increased parenting skills
- Increased early literacy skills
- Increased access to affordable childcare
- Children reach developmental benchmarks

- Increased connections to caring adults
- Improved reading & math performance
- Increased social/emotional growth
- Students achieve attendance targets
- Students transition to college or employment

- Increased permanency for children
- Homelessness prevention
- Increased access to transportation
- Increased access to legal and mental health services

- Provide assistance to senior citizens to overcome barriers to independent living.
LEVERAGED Funding:

To win the fight to eradicate poverty takes more than individual programs. United Way of Yellowstone County leverages additional funds from businesses, foundations and government to support collaborative endeavors aimed at system change. Allocation of funds is determined by local experts, collaborative plans and funder criteria.

Best Beginnings Council: Focus on age 0-8
- Projects: Childcare and Parent Training; Bed Bug Eradication; Coordinated Referral Hub for Home Visiting; Childhood Hunger; Trauma Informed Care
- Funds: MT Preschool Development Grant; Montana Community Foundation; DESTRESS Grant from Healthy By Design

Trauma Informed Care and the effects of ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES
- With funding from the Healthy By Design DESTRESS grant, UWYC facilitated subawards to nonprofits for in-depth training on trauma informed care. The goal is for our whole community to be operating in a trauma informed manner.

Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Federal legislation allocates funds administered by local agencies to supplement and expand the on-going work of local social service organizations to provide shelter, food and supportive services to people who have economic emergencies.

Reach Out and Read
- ROR is an evidence-based program that incorporates early literacy into pediatric practice, equipping parents with tools and knowledge to ensure that their children are prepared to learn when they start school. ROR is made possible by a grant from EBMS.

Grade Level Reading and Attendance
- Five pilot sites work year round to improve school attendance and grade level reading. An additional 11 schools join in the Attendance Awareness Outreach in August and September. This is made possible through generous support from the business community, and the Sample Foundation.

Resource Referral: Montana211.org
- Montana211.org provides one-stop shopping for resources such as: housing, food, after school care, mental and physical health, veterans, employment, addictions, senior services, disability services, and more.

Grade Level Reading and Attendance
- 16 schools in and around Billings contribute.

Year Round Sites
- McKinley Elementary, Newman Elementary, Rose Park Elementary, CARE Academy, Friendship House

Attendance Awareness Month
- Beartooth, Big Sky, Bitterroot, Broadwater, Eagle Cliffs, McKinley, Miles Ave, Norman, Orchard, Poly Drive, Ponderosa, Rose Park, Sandstone, Washington

Database contains over 900 resources. 470 agencies help us maintain the database. Funding received from the DESTRESS grant from Healthy By Design.