



GTCUW Community Fact Sheet 2018

Twin Cities Overview:

The greater Twin Cities area is the vibrant and hard-working place we all call home. But it's not without its challenges. Today we're facing gaps that limit our potential and threaten the well-being of our entire community:

- 1 in 4 people experiences poverty.
- 7,500+ people don't have a safe place to sleep on any given night.
- 34% of kids under 6 experience poverty and aren't ready for school.
- By 2024, nearly half a million jobs will go unfilled due to workforce gaps.

Homelessness:

- On any given night in the greater Twin Cities, more than 7,500 people are on the streets and more than 7,000 are "couch surfing" because they don't have a stable home.
- In 2017 we responded to nearly 200,000 calls through our 2-1-1 hotline and website, connecting people to critical resources such as food, shelter and health care.
- In 2017, 3,000 youth and families received shelter and stable housing.
- As part of the Heading Home Minnesota Funder's Collaborative, we contributed to helping people find homes through nearly \$2.5 million in government and private funding.
- 40 percent of young people experiencing homelessness identify as LGBTQ.
- We are one of the largest funders of LGBTQ issues in Minnesota. In 2017, in partnership with Minnesota Council on Foundations and PFund Foundation, we launched Better OUTcomes, an initiative focused on increasing resources for LGBTQ communities

Jobs/Workforce:

- By 2024, Minnesota is projected to have 400,000 unfilled jobs. 63 percent of those jobs will require at least some education beyond high school, yet there's a wide gap in proper training to fill those positions.
- Due to systemic inequities, people of color and American Indians experience an annual wage gap of nearly \$30,000 and \$33,000, respectively, compared to white workers.

- Our investment of \$4.6 million in 24 job training and career pathway programs has resulted in a total increase of \$99.5 million in annual earnings for participants, multiplying our investment by 20 times.
- Of those placed in jobs, 72 percent retained their jobs for at least six months. Further, 66 percent retained their jobs for at least one year, which is higher than the Minnesota state average of 52 percent.
- Program participants increased their annual earnings by \$23,000 on average.

Education:

- In the greater Twin Cities, 34 percent of children under age six live in poverty. As a result, many aren't meeting healthy physical and cognitive development benchmarks during their first three years of life, which is critical to helping them prepare for school, develop strong relationships, and ultimately lead healthier, more stable and more prosperous lives.
- With the MinneMinds coalition, we secured \$140 million in bi-annual state funding. This provides early learning scholarships each year for 16,000 children under five who are most in need in Minnesota.
- Income and race continue to determine academic outcomes for our community's students. This has led to a high school graduation rate gap of 25 percent between low- and high-income students.
- Over the past decade, the proportion of low-income students in Minnesota who graduated from high school on time has increased by 14 percent.
- Over the past two years, students and families have saved nearly \$1 million in post-secondary tuition costs as a result of the college and career readiness work we support.

Health:

- Minnesota is rated first in the nation for overall health, yet ranks 25th for health disparities and 46th for public health funding.
- In 2017, 36,000 people received necessary health services.
- In 2017 we responded to nearly 200,000 calls through our 2-1-1 hotline and website, connecting people to critical resources such as food, shelter and health care.

Hunger:

- Emergency food center use has doubled in the past five years in the Twin Cities, with nearly two million visits in 2016.
- As the largest non-governmental funder of food shelves and meal programs in the Twin Cities region, we help low-income people access healthy and culturally relevant food. From 2016 to 2017, we distributed 20 million pounds of food. We also are building sustainable food systems and advancing efforts that affect how communities grow, access and sell food.
- We referred more than 116,000 people to long-term food support through SNAP in 2017.
- In 2017, United Way created and launched "Full Lives" to strengthen the North Minneapolis food system, providing residents access to affordable, nutritious food and food-related jobs. Through a generous investment from the General Mills Foundation, 14 projects across 11 organizations are underway, including: North Market grocery store; farm plots for families to grow food; youth-run, vegetable-based bakery located in public housing; corner store makeover with fresh and nutritious choices; and food policy support.
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