

DRIVING THE DREAM

Out of Poverty

*Moving the needle on local poverty,
one person at a time.*

The mission of United Way of the Mid-South is to improve the quality of life for Mid-Southerners by mobilizing and aligning local resources to address priority issues. This collaborative effort is a holistic approach to advance individuals and families in poverty toward their dreams of self-sufficiency.

United Way of the Mid-South's ***Driving The Dream*** initiative is a system of care framework, comprised of a network of agencies that supports individuals and families to map their goals and dreams, to create a clear roadmap to achieve them, to make seamless connections to needed services, and to move them to economic self-sufficiency and a life of their choosing. *Driving The Dream* is based upon a model of research focused on developing a national standard of care to treat the condition of poverty.

United Way is the leading catalyst in stimulating support and services for individuals and families as they progress from poverty to prosperity. United Way elevates the good, partners fuel the good, agencies and volunteers do the good because together we can do more good than any one of us can do alone.

UNITED WAY

- Partners with nonprofits to address poverty and quality of life issues
- Forms a network of professionals and agencies serving individuals and families in poverty

DRIVING THE DREAM PARTNERS

- Employs a best practice client engagement model.
- Uses the Arizona Self-Sufficiency Inventory to assess clients' needs - *see backside for example*
- Uses technology to access client data, track client process, identify available resources, and make and receive client referrals through a shared web-based database

DRIVING THE DREAM BENEFICIARIES (FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN POVERTY)

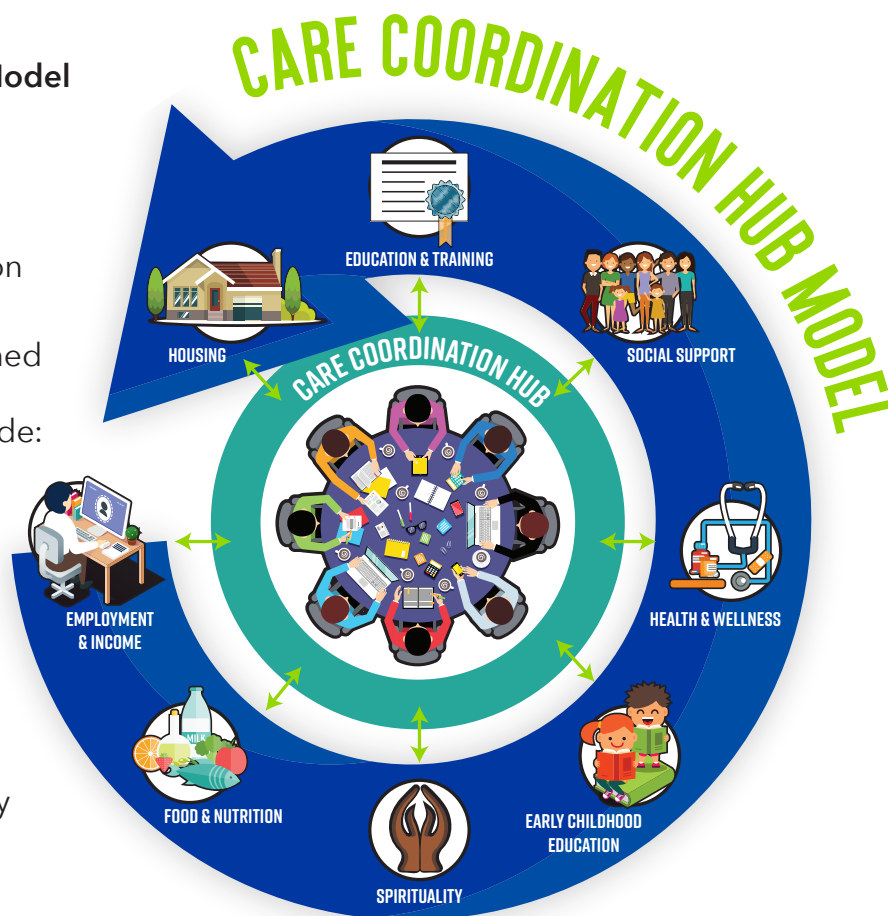
- Works with the ***Driving The Dream*** providers to create a "map of their dreams;" charting the order of steps, programs, and services necessary to help escape poverty and live the life of their dreams.



HOW IT WORKS

Driving The Dream Service Delivery Model

- “No-wrong-door” approach that effectively links services across organizations.
- Levels of support vary depending on the needs of individuals or families.
- Customer-centered services designed to address the diverse needs of families. The levels of support include:
 - » Coordinated Service Referrals providing a seamless partnership between agencies
 - » Care Coordinator Hubs - our highest level of support that offer extensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families experiencing poverty, and the creation of a “Map of My Dreams” service plan



Client Assessment

ARIZONA SELF-SUFFICIENCY MATRIX [5 of 20 domains displayed below]

| | IN CRISIS | VULNERABLE | SAFE | BUILDING CAPACITY | EMPOWERED |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| SHELTER / HOUSING | Homeless or threatened with eviction. | In transitional, temporary or substandard housing; and/or current rent/mortgage payment is unaffordable (over 30% of income) | In stable housing that is safe but only marginally adequate. | Household is in safe, adequate subsidized housing. | Household is in safe, adequate and unsubsidized housing. |
| EMPLOYMENT | No job | Temporary, part-time or seasonal; inadequate pay, no benefits. | Employed full-time; inadequate pay; few or no benefits. | Employed full-time with adequate pay and benefits. | Maintains permanent employment with adequate income and benefits. |
| INCOME | No income | Inadequate income and/or spontaneous or inappropriate spending. | Can meet basic needs with subsidy; appropriate spending. | Can meet basic needs and manage debt without assistance. | Income is sufficient, well managed; has discretionary income and is able to save. |
| FOOD / NUTRITION | No food or means to prepare it. Relies to a significant degree on other sources of free or low-cost food. | Household receives SNAP benefits. | Can meet basic food needs, but requires occasional assistance. | Can meet basic food needs without assistance. | Can choose to purchase any food household desires; (Makes healthy choices.) |
| CHILDCARE | Needs childcare but none is available/accessible and/or child is not eligible. | Childcare is unreliable or unaffordable, inadequate supervision is a problem for childcare that is available. | Affordable subsidized childcare is available, but limited. | Reliable, affordable childcare is available; no need for subsidies. | Able to select quality childcare of choice. |

To learn more visit <https://www.uwmidsouth.org/driving-the-dream/>

UWMIDSOUTH.ORG

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