

Family STABILITY PROGRAM



United
Way



United Way of the
Greater Dayton Area

Family STABILITY PROGRAM

When families change homes and schools, especially when they move multiple times, children fall behind in school and are less likely to graduate.

One of the most significant barriers to the educational success of children is school mobility. Frequently changing schools has a negative impact on a child's academic outcomes including an increased risk of failing a grade or not graduating.

Given that the **average child requires 4 to 6 months to recover academically after each school change**, it can be expected that children and youth who change schools multiple times will not only fail to recover, but will lose academic ground (Burley & Halpern, 2001).

United Way of the Greater Dayton Area is responding to this issue by investing in financial stability programs, educational programs, and the management of targeted local programs supported by the Siemer Institute for Family Stability (SIFS).

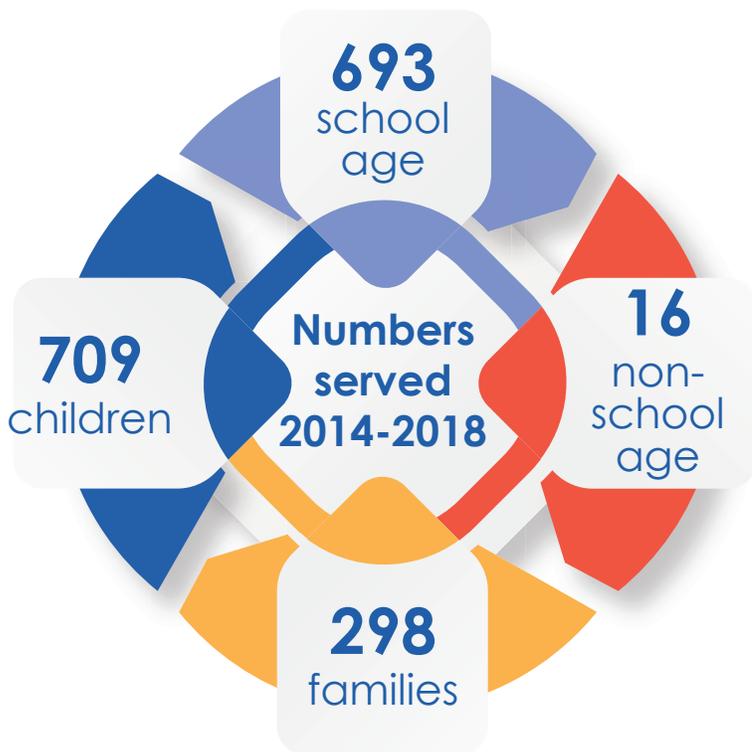
Family Stability Program (FSP) is a two-generation approach that addresses the school mobility problem through multiple focus areas: helping families stay in their homes, becoming financially stable, and supporting children's academic success. With Homefull's case management and program implementation, we are able to help fulfill the Siemer Institute's mission to enhance educational opportunities for school-aged children by preventing family homelessness and reducing student mobility. United Way and Homefull work closely to continually improve the quality of service delivery and implement new strategies to maximize the impact on children and families.



National Tocqueville Society Award winners Al and Barbara Siemer have been partnering with United Way to address student mobility caused by homelessness since 2003. As a retired teacher, Barbara saw the academic and social consequences of children changing schools due to housing instability.

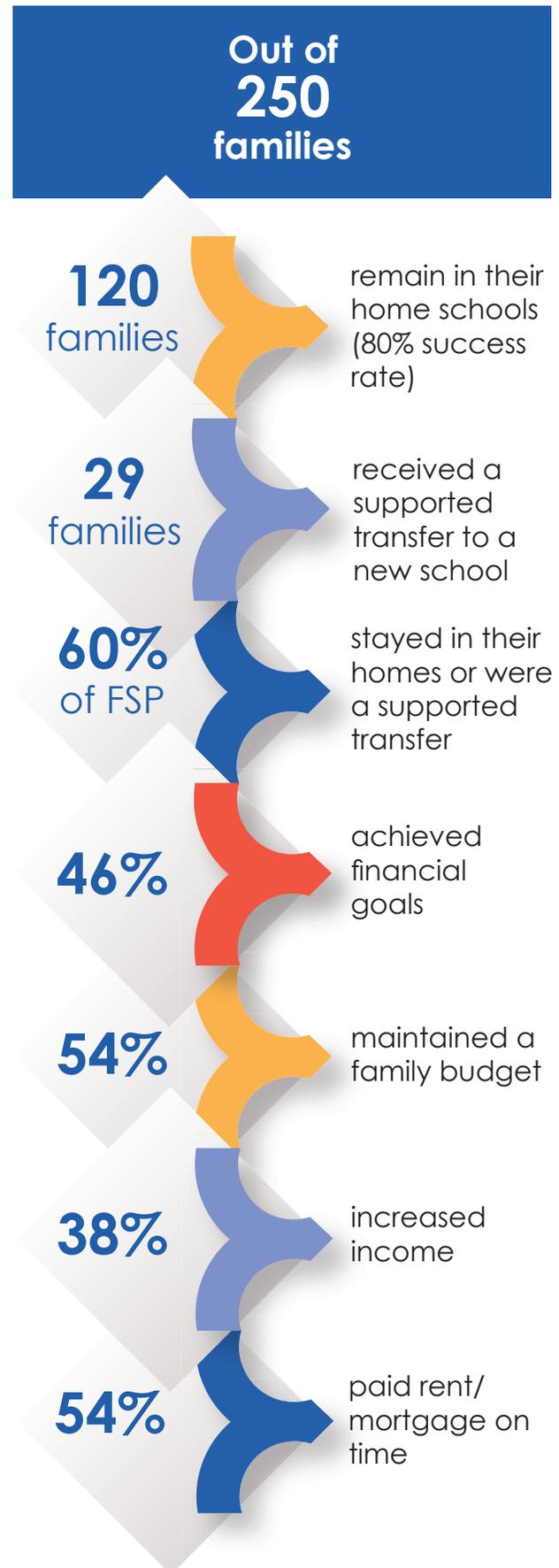
In 2011, the Siemer Institute was founded to spread the success of the initial work in Florida nationwide, partnering with United Ways across the country. **Since 2011, the Siemer Institute has benefitted 30,000 families.** Using the collective impact and two-generation models, United Way of the Greater Dayton Area is joining in the work with 53 other communities to help families remain in their homes, become financially stable, and provide academic stability for children.

Since the Family Stability Program started in 2011, we have served 298 families including 709 children—693 of which were school age and 16 younger than school age.

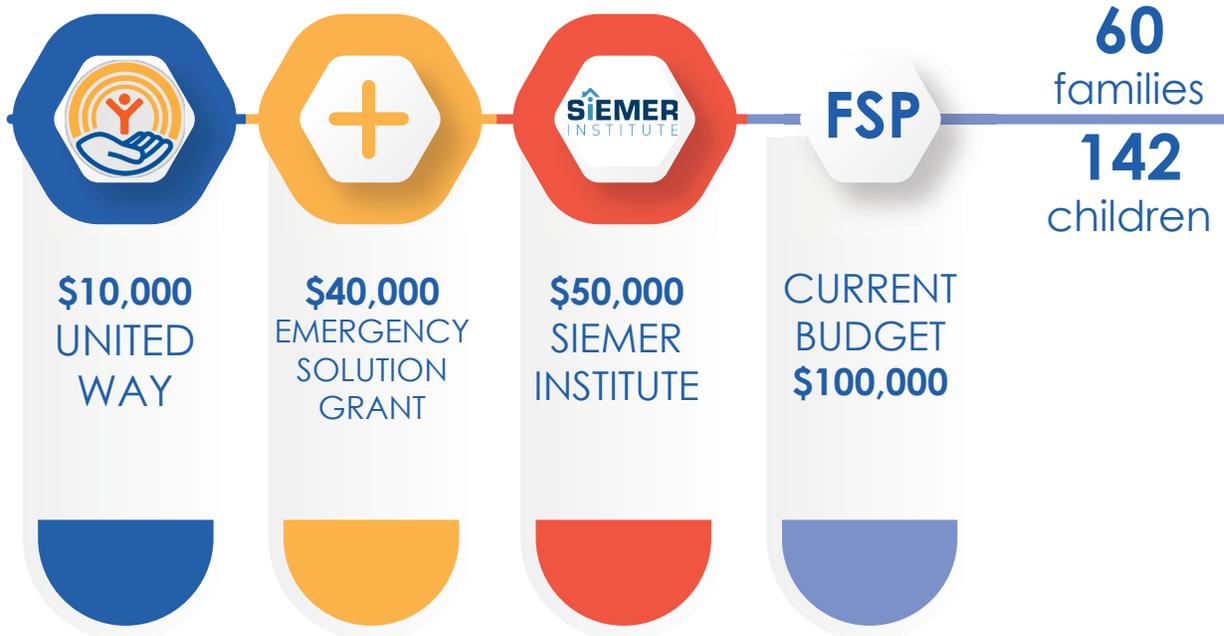


Out of the 250 families served with case management, 120 children have been able to remain in their original school and home while 29 families experienced a supported transfer to a new school. 60% of Family Stability Program participants were able to stay in their original school or receive a supported transfer to a new school.

Participants also set and achieved financial goals and maintained a family budget. Some were able to increase their income while in the program and even more were able to pay their rent or mortgage on time.



Data points measured using the Arizona Self-Sufficiency Index



Siemer Institute requires a 100% match of their funds. We leverage Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funds that are used for rent and utility payments for eligible families. United Way and Siemer Institute funds are used for rent and utility payments for families who are not eligible for ESG funds, removal of barriers related to school (e.g. school uniforms, bus passes, and school supplies) and case management (i.e. coaching, budget counseling, job training referral and support, coordination of additional necessary services for adults and children).



When Christina came to the **Family Stability Program (FSP)**, she was on the verge of losing her apartment where she and her two children had lived for nearly a year and a half.

Christina had just lost her job and was actively looking for employment. She was behind on her rent, but her landlord was willing to work with her and FSP. Christina was able to pay portions of the back rent doing odd jobs but was never able to pay the full amount.

She worked very closely with case management to help her find a new job and worked on budgeting in order to become stable, and FSP was able to keep her and her children in their apartment. Christina started working two jobs in order to find the necessary income to be able to afford her rent and other housing related costs. As she continued to work through the Family Stability Program, Homefull was able to assist Christina with paying off her old DP&L and Vectren debts. She continues to work hard and is in line to get a raise and possible promotion. Christina's kids have been able to improve in school and report being happy that they do not have to leave their home or change schools.

How Family Stability Program Can Grow

With increased funding, Family Stability Program could serve more families more intentionally. By the time clients come to FSP, they are on the brink of crisis. They are often several months behind in rent and are facing eviction. Mitigating the housing crisis is just one piece of the puzzle. Families come with numerous barriers that are both caused by and lead to further financial instability. They need pre-crisis management strategies, higher incomes, and connections to community resources. Because families are often living crisis to crisis, they do not have the luxury of planning. FSP currently provides wrap around case management to help families navigate and prevent financial crises, but resources limit the both number of families assisted and the degree to which we can help.

FAMILY STABILITY PROGRAM			
	YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE
# OF FAMILIES SERVED	60	120	180
COST	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000

Achievement Club is a proven model from United Way of Greater Atlanta that we will implement locally in the fall of 2019. This additional program component helps families set and achieve goals to improve the lives of themselves and their families. Providing direct incentives to families to help themselves has been proven to improve health, education, and income outcomes in a more sustainable manner.

This model focuses on two major concepts:

- Peer support
- Conditional cash incentives for meeting goals

Their success is rooted in free will, empowering families to take control of their lives by achieving goals with a support network. Achievement Club provides coaching support, case management, and connections to other community organizations to provide specific expertise and the resources necessary to achieve their goals.

ACHIEVEMENT CLUB			
	YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE
# OF FAMILIES SERVED	12	24	36
COST	\$12,300	\$24,600	\$36,900