2013-2014 United Way of Central Massachusetts
Program Descriptions and Grant Amounts

The agencies and programs listed below make up the approximately $3 million in program funding that United Way granted in central Massachusetts this year. You will notice that each of the programs are working to provide services in one or more of the three basic building blocks for a good life: EDUCATION, HEALTH, and FAMILY STABILITY; our Women’s Initiative focusing on adolescent girls; or are helping the most vulnerable among us with immediate needs such as food, housing and crisis intervention through our Safety Net funding. In total, United Way of Central Massachusetts will invest nearly $5.4 million in the community this year, through these and dozens of other initiatives.

American Red Cross of Central Massachusetts
American Red Cross - C3 Program (Family Stability) $73,000
The Workforce Development Healthcare Training Programs help unemployed and underemployed people obtain basic workplace skills necessary for gainful employment and financial stability. The fundamental program training component is the Certified Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide (CNA/HHA).

American Red Cross of Central Massachusetts
American Red Cross Stabilization Program (Safety Net) $100,000
The Disaster Relief Services program immediately improves the quality of life for those impacted by disasters by addressing basic human needs - food, clothing, shelter, and mental health counseling. The goal following a disaster is to stabilize the lives of individuals and families by accelerating the recovery process.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central MA/Metrowest
Bigs in the Worcester Area (Education) $78,000
Through participation in professionally-supported and developed mentoring relationships, at-risk youth in the Worcester area develop critical competencies they need to become healthy, caring, and responsible adults. To reach the most children in need, these services are provided at local schools, Boys & Girls Clubs, and in the community.

Boys and Girls Club of Worcester
Girls’ Voice (Women’s Initiative) $35,000
The Girls Voice program combines two best practice curricula - SMART Girls and Girls Circle - with a wide variety of girls-only programming that includes fitness, yoga, self-defense, dance, music, and drama. The programming topics are chosen and were suggested by girls in the program.

Catholic Charities
Emergency Stabilization (Safety Net) $41,000
This program helps people in crisis: preventing hunger, homelessness, destabilization, and despair. The program provides food, clothing, personal items, infant supplies, as well as financial assistance with rent, mortgages, utilities, transportation, prescription assistance, and other basic needs as resources allow. The primary program goals are to help stabilize the crisis situation, promote self-sufficiency, and foster hope.

This information is current as of 7/16/2013. Check www.unitedwaycm.org for updated information.
Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance

**Housing and Income Stabilization** (Family Stability) $50,000
The POWER Program (Personal Opportunities for Work, Education, & Renewal) provides education and training for homeless families so they can increase their employment options and/or income to become stabilized. Most participants are able to secure a full or part-time job within one year.

Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance

**Housing Counseling and Homelessness Prevention** (Safety Net) $100,000
Housing Counseling provides education, tools, and supports to stabilize families and individuals in safe, affordable housing to prevent homelessness and promote long-term stability housing stability. The Housing Counseling program is a key component of local and statewide plans to reduce and eventually eliminate homelessness through stabilizing families in their housing using a variety of strategies including the provision of emergency cash assistance, counseling, and landlord/tenant mediation services.

Children's Friend, Inc.

**The Ellsworth Child and Family Counseling Program** (Safety Net) $20,000
The Ellsworth Child and Family Mental Health Clinic offers outpatient mental health services to children, adolescents, and their families. The target program utilizes individual therapy, group therapy, telephone consultation, and team meetings to provide a Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) approach to adolescent girls ages 13 to 19 who have a history of self-injury (e.g. cutting or burning) or suicidal thoughts/attempts. The goal of this program is to eliminate suicidal ideation and self-injurious behaviors in these adolescent girls to move them from a crisis situation to one of stability.

Children’s Friend, Inc.

**School Aged Mother’s Program** (Education/Health/Family Stability) $36,000
The SAM Program provides a coordinated program of academic education; prenatal, post natal and parenting education; individual and group counseling; case management, and early childhood education and care during school hours. The SAM team of social services, health, and child care professionals, working cooperatively with the faculty at the Gerald Creamer Center (GCC) offer guidance, instruction, specialized services, and practical assistance to at risk pregnant and parenting teens.

Clark University

**All Kinds of Girls** (Women’s Initiative) $14,000
All Kinds of Girls is a Saturday program for Worcester girls aged nine to twelve, run by mentors at Clark University. The program teaches adolescent girls self-esteem as a powerful mode of prevention against troubled and violent behavior. The program focuses on encouraging healthy lifestyles, supporting healthy relationships, promoting positive behavior, and enhancing peer leadership in girls.

Community Healthlink, Inc.

**Support for Success: School Based Mental Health Services** (Education) $73,000

This information is current as of 7/16/2013. Check [www.unitedwaycm.org](http://www.unitedwaycm.org) for updated information.
This program provides on-site clinical mental health services to at-risk youth through partnerships at 19 schools in central MA. This funding will provide ongoing consultation to school teams and staff, parent training and outreach, as well as treatment service for youth. Students engaged in these services demonstrate improvement in mental health status, school attendance, and academic behavior.

Community Healthlink, Inc.

Community Healthlink's (CHL) Medical Respite Program provides 24/7 care for homeless individuals discharged from area hospitals, as they recover from illness or injury. The co-located Emergency Assistance beds provide short-term stabilization for homeless individuals who are in crisis or are too vulnerable for other traditional homeless services.

Community Legal Aid (Formerly Legal Assistance Corp. of Central Mass.)

The Legal Advocacy and Protection Program (LAPP) provides services that will enforce the legal rights of low-income and elderly families and individuals who need the protection of the legal system to remain safe or to gain access to the shelter and benefits programs that will stabilize their lives. Through its work, LAPP eliminates barriers to rights guaranteed by state and federal law by ensuring that agencies administering benefit programs follow the law, and by ensuring that courts apply the law correctly.

Dismas House

Dismas House provides housing and supportive services to homeless former prisoners in greater Worcester. Their case management services pull offenders away from homelessness and a poor return to Worcester, and instead direct them to a constellation of support that begins “behind the walls” and extends beyond housing to include employment, recovery, family reunification, healthcare, and aftercare.

Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center

Strong Girls/Healthy Choices seeks to address the fact that many young women are ill-prepared to confront the challenges they face every day with their health and safety. The program addresses the lack of confidence and skills girls demonstrate and their inability to make the necessary decisions to keep themselves safe. The Strong Girls/Healthy Choices Program will focus on creating leaders out of young women; leaders who can stand up for themselves and their peers.

Elder Services of Worcester Area

This information is current as of 7/16/2013. Check www.unitedwaycm.org for updated information.
The Money Management Program provides financial stability and freedom from financial exploitation for elders living in Worcester and surrounding towns. This is accomplished through two components, Bill Payer and Representative Payee. The goal of the program is financial stability - allowing an elder to remain in their own home as long as possible.

**Elder Services of Worcester Area**

**Nutrition Program** (Safety Net) $43,000

The Nutrition Program addresses multiple problems faced by elders- ranging from poor nutrition and food insecurity, to chronic disease and social isolation. Nutrition services and meals are a vital support that enables many elders to live in the community independently. The Meals-on-Wheels Program offers reassurance to its consumers and their families that someone is checking on their well-being; while the congregate dining program offers opportunities for socialization, recreation, and educational programming.

**Elder Services of Worcester Area**

**Elm Park Center for Early Childhood Education**

**Elm Park Children's Program** (Health) $18,000

The Elm Park Center Children’s Program will implement new program strategies to teach positive nutritional habits and include daily physical activity, including swimming, Double-Dutch, and walking clubs for the children enrolled in each of their centers. Parents will also be encouraged to take part in “Cooking Matters” classes, and workshops on physical fitness and nutrition.

**Family Health Center of Worcester, Inc.**

**Homeless Families Stabilization Program** (Safety Net) $49,500

The stabilization program provides a medical home for homeless families. They provide intensive medical and social service management to families during homeless episodes and beyond. In particular, this program addresses the need for stable medical care for homeless children and addresses family functioning during a period of high stress.

**Family Health Center of Worcester, Inc.**

**Positive Directions!** (Education/Family Stability) $65,000

Positive Directions! is a program aimed at combating the high school drop-out problem at South High. A highly collaborative, case manager-driven program, it targets 9th graders at risk for dropping out due to absenteeism, school failure, and mental and behavioral health needs. The program builds on each student's and their family's strengths and supports both student and family by providing needed services, engaging the student and family in their school, and connecting at-risk students with caring trained adults.

**Family Services of Central Massachusetts**

**Out-of-School-Time Literacy** (Education) $60,000

This program will expand this successful program for children ages 5-9 enrolled in licensed summer camp programs. The proposed expansion will implement the program in 1-2 additional sites providing summer and afterschool programming that intentionally include literacy activities, so that the children in these programs will have the benefit of this approach year-round. To date this model has prevented summer learning loss in over 80 percent of the program participants.

**Family Services of Central Massachusetts**

**Social Service Program** (Safety Net) $56,000

A social service program providing crisis intervention, financial and legal protective services, shelter and housing services, and emergency food to families with the goal of stabilizing the family.

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Girls Incorporated of Worcester

Comprehensive K-12 Enrichment and Academic Enhancement for Abby Kelly Foster Charter Public School

(Education/Family Stability/Health) $45,000

This program works with the school to identify at-risk girls, and involves them in a collaborative enrichment program with UMass Medical School Regional Science Resource Center, WPI Office of Women’s Program, and Girl’s, Inc directed at math, science, health, and financial literacy. The program is offered on-site at the school, eliminating the barrier of transportation that frequently prevents participation.

Girls Incorporated of Worcester

Dear World: Voices of Worcester Girls (Women’s Initiative) $35,000

An expressive arts and violence prevention program for girls ages 11 to 18. This skills-based experiential program builds upon the national Girls Inc. Dear World public education campaign, and incorporates components of the evidence based violence prevention programs, Action for Safety and Living Safe & Strong. Program participants are empowered to explore the impact of bullying, violence against women and girls, racism, religious intolerance, and gender stereotypes. Through a variety of expressive arts, girls have an opportunity to educate themselves and the broader community on issues of violence and promote healthy relationships.

Guild of St. Agnes

Infant-Toddler Early Education & Care (Education) $30,000

In Worcester, as well as other parts of the Commonwealth, the demand for center-based infant/toddler care far exceeds the availability. This proposal is to enable the Guild of St. Agnes to continue operating its high-quality, center-based infant and toddler education and care program at its Granite Street site. Research has shown that high-quality child care has the strongest effects on economically disadvantaged and at risk children.

Jewish Family Service of Worcester, Inc.

Guardianship Program (Protective Services) $30,000

The Jewish Family Services Guardianship Program is the epitome of a "social safety net" for the most vulnerable of seniors. JFS is appointed guardian and/or conservator by the Probate Court for elders who are deemed no longer competent to make medical, personal and/or financial decisions on their own behalf. As guardian, JFS will act in the elder's best interest, and ensure his/her safety and well-being.

Latino Education Institute (LEI)

Club E (C3 Program) $39,000

Club Educación (Club E), provides expanded workforce development and promotes positive health and nutrition outcomes to 300 under-served immigrant parents and helps strengthen their long-term future through the provision of: (1) ESL classes that are intensive, academically rigorous and personally supportive; (2) Family Academies highlighting health literacy and nutrition, and (3) a workforce development component focusing on career exploration and preparedness. This strategy responds to the urgent need to decrease poverty among the 18% of Worcester residents whom are Latino. Club E seeks to increase earning power while ameliorating the negative impacts of poverty related to health.

Latino Education Institute (LEI)

Innovative Services for Latino Students (ISLA) (Education/Family Stability) $31,000

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This program targets Latino students at Goddard Elementary School in grades 3 through 6 and their families. Parents of these students will be able to access free ESL programs at Worcester State University, as well as parent academies on the weekends that offer parents information and resources on taking charge of family health matters such as nutrition and exercise, and creating healthy family environments. Students in the program receive mentoring, afterschool homework help, and additional instruction in one of the following areas each day: literacy, math, arts & culture, and health.

**Latino Education Institute (LEI)**

**Latina Achievers in Search of Success (LASOS)** (Women’s Initiative) $35,631

LASOS is a youth development program that employs cultural strengths to provide Latina middle-school girls with strategies to achieve healthy relationships and behavior. Program components include violence prevention, creative expression, self-esteem, leadership development, career exploration, parental involvement, healthy lifestyles, and conflict resolution.

**LUK Crisis Center, Inc.**

**Project Shine** (Women’s Initiative) $15,356

Leadership development program piloted with middle-school girls from the Quabbin Regional School District. Uses two evidence-based models, Girls Circle and Safe Dates, as well as experiential learning activities to promote healthy relationships and positive behaviors in girls. The program will expand to offer this curriculum to middle-school girls in the Wachusett Regional School district (two additional middle schools) during the school day for the 2012-13 academic year.

**Lutheran Social Services of New England, Inc.**

**Services for New Americans Employment & Education** (C3 Program) $40,000

This program will increase access to English for Speakers of Other Languages classes for recent immigrants; and increase access for low-income families on education about financial literacy, banking, etc. Financial literacy topics will be woven into the ESOL curriculum for the target audience. Additionally, program participants will benefit from increased access to workforce training programs and/or career development/career advancement services all located in the same site.

**Massachusetts Educational and Career Opportunities, Inc.**

**Collegiate Success Institute – CSI Worcester** (Education) $34,000

In partnership with the Worcester Public Schools, local colleges and universities, and concerned leaders from the local business community, CSI Worcester was designed to serve as an intensive experience for AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) students. These are students who are in the "academic middle" and may not necessarily aspire to college but do show strong academic potential. CSI pairs students with both corporate and college mentors to give them a sense of the college experience, demystify the college application process, and help them learn about opportunities for a successful career in today's global economy.

**Nativity School of Worcester**

**Graduate Support Program** (Education) $27,000

The Graduate Support Program at Nativity School of Worcester tracks and mentors Nativity graduates who are in high school and their first year of college, ensuring that Nativity graduates not only complete their secondary education, but excel in high school and successfully transition to college. Staff work closely with graduates to identify and resolve problems that could otherwise lead to a student failing to complete high school. In addition

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to academic support, students are also encouraged to join at least one extra-curricular activity, and to take on leadership roles within their high school community.

**Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.**

**Emergency Assistance Program** (Safety Net) $34,500
Pernet provides comprehensive health, social, and educational services to families living in the Worcester area who are marginalized by poverty. The Emergency Assistance Program operates a food and infant supply pantry that provides clients with enough food, baby formula, cereal, and diapers to last a few days. At the same time, families are assessed for other needs and risk factors; assisted with food stamp applications; given other referrals; and counseled as to available supports that may be needed, with the goal to help transition clients into becoming self-sufficient.

**Rainbow Child Development Center**

**Rainbow’s Preschool** (Education) $34,000
Rainbow Child Development Center’s licensed and nationally accredited Preschool Program serves 64 children, ages 2.9-6, in 4 classrooms. The program’s curriculum is interactive and child-centered, offering each child the chance to explore and learn in a supportive non-judgmental forum. Speech development therapy, play therapy, assessments, and individual and group counseling are provided on site. Two teachers, aided by interns and volunteers, direct each classroom. Breakfast, lunch, and snack are provided as well as transportation for children whose families are unable to transport their child.

**Rainbow Child Development Center**

**Rainbow’s School Age Program** (Education) $15,000
Rainbow’s Program provides 52 week care, education & therapeutic services to children ages 5-13 in four program settings: Belmont Community School, City View School, 10 Edward Street & summer camp located at Treasure Valley. The program focus is to provide academic assistance, recreational activities, social/emotional guidance, and family support.

**Regional Environmental Council, Inc.**

**Food Justice Program** (Education/Health) $56,000
The Food Justice Program of the Regional Environmental Council addresses the issue of community food insecurity and the lack of nutritious fresh foods in many of the city’s neighborhoods. The program provides community and school gardens, farmer’s markets, cooking classes, and youth programming centered around urban agricultural programs.

**Seven Hills Family Services**

**Just Us Girls** (Women’s Initiative) $18,345
“Just Us Girls” is a unique social skills opportunity for girls with special needs who have not been successful in forming real friendships, mostly in part because of their disabilities. Girls with special needs from local middle schools will participate, as well as typical peers who will serve as role models and communication partners. The program will target the development of self-determination skills, with particular goals around communicating more effectively, making good choices, learning about community resources, personal safety skills, and developing friendship skills. A concurrent group for parents will be facilitated by a trained family support specialist.

**South Middlesex Opportunity Council**

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Greater Worcester Housing Connection (Safety Net) $100,000
The Greater Worcester Housing Connection (GWHC) provides housing and supportive services to homeless individuals in the Worcester region towards the community goal of ending homelessness. In concert with the City's Plan to End Homelessness, the GWHC provides emergency housing triage and assessment services along with short-term temporary and permanent housing solutions. In addition to meeting an individual's immediate housing needs, the program provides services and linkages to resources that include employment, health and behavioral health, education and income maximization opportunities delivered in an individualized approach toward the goal of enhanced self-sufficiency.

The Bridge of Central Massachusetts
Safe Homes (C3 Program) $45,000
Safe Homes serves gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender youth (LGBTQ) and their allies in Worcester and surrounding towns. This grant will increase the graduation rate of at risk youth ages 13 through 19 by providing key supports, education, counseling, and an environment of acceptance, in collaboration with the YouthConnect Worcester network of agencies. Many of the youth experience challenges in school, at home, and in the community. The program provides food, substantive educational programming, crisis support counseling, advocacy, and informal socializing weekly.

The CASA Project, Inc.
CASA/GAL Child Court Advocacy (Safety Net) $54,000
The CASA Project provides volunteer advocates for abused and neglected children in Worcester County Juvenile Court. With strong support from the Worcester County Juvenile Court, CASA volunteers perform investigations for the judge, monitor case progress, and advocate for the child, in order to find a safe and permanent home as quickly as possible.

The Community Builders Plumley Village
One Circle Program (Women’s Initiative) $15,000
In collaboration with the Worcester Youth Center and the Latino Education Institute, Plumley Village will implement One Circle, an arts and leadership initiative serving 10-14 year old girls from the City of Worcester. One Circle provides girls with skills to enhance self-esteem, communication, education, healthy relationships and increased self confidence through self expression and creativity in the arts. The Girls Circle units provide girls with a safe environment to explore elements of self identity, understand external factors that impact the girls' vision of themselves, and practice self confident behavior. School performance is also an area of focus; tutors from College of the Holy Cross tutor the girls before and after the Program and on alternate days.

UMass Memorial HealthCare, Inc -HOPE Coalition
HOPE Coalition Mental Health Model (Education) $70,000
The HOPE Coalition/YouthNet Mental Health Model integrates mental health treatment, prevention, asset building, and staff training into youth-serving organizations in Worcester in order to increase access for low-income youth of color and reduce stigma associated with receiving mental health support.

Valley Resident for Improvement Inc.
VRI’s Homework Learning Center Summer Camp (Education/Health) $38,000
There is a large achievement gap between disadvantaged school age children from underserved areas and those from mainstream communities. Such children often do not have the variety of physical activities or gym

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opportunities as mainstream children. This program will offer academic support and recreation for children for 35 weeks during the school year and 6 weeks during the summer.

**Webster Square Day Care Center, Inc.**

**Preschool Child Care** *(Education)*  
$33,000

Webster Square Day Care Center, Inc. is an NAEYC accredited comprehensive multi-service early education and care agency that provides a safe, affordable, high-quality learning environment for children 2.9 to 7 years of age. Teaching is through a team approach and the curriculum centers around the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive needs of children. The daily program promotes learning in the areas of language development, physical development, early literacy, mathematics, science, technology, art, music, social studies, health and safety, self-regulation, and building positive relationships.

**Worcester Community Action Council**

**Project Excel** *(Family Stability)*  
$35,000

Project Excel is a comprehensive educational and employment program for individuals who have not completed high school that helps individuals achieve self-sufficiency and productive lives. These goals are accomplished by the enhancement of reading, writing, and mathematical skills through General Educational Development (GED) Test preparation. The academic program is supplemented by pre-employment skills, computer training, and job placement assistance.

**Worcester Educational Development Foundation, Inc.**

**Adult, Continuing and Community Education Program** *(Family Stability)*  
$28,000

Every year there is a long wait list for ESL and GED classes (currently 800 on the list) because Worcester has the highest proportion of refugees and immigrants in the state; it is 10 times the number that should be expected given the City’s population. This program will reduce the wait list by offering additional courses, utilizing Worcester Public Schools to make classes available across the city.

**Worcester Roots Project**

**Co-Operative Youth Leadership Program** *(Family Stability)*  
$18,000

This program will increase the number of youth leaders by 15 per year in co-operative programs incubated by WRP and enhancing their skills to secure a job in the market. These co-operative programs are Toxic Soil Busters (TSB), Youth in Charge (YIC), and Future Focus media. TSB, a group of 14-18 year olds, use outreach, education and direct action to tackle lead contaminated soil in Main South and Piedmont neighborhoods. YIC, a group of 14-20 year olds from Bell Hill area, work to identify and meet community needs in Bell Hill and Lower Lincoln neighborhoods. Future Focus Media trains groups of 15-22 year olds in new ways to use modern technology to network with people from all walks of life. There are currently 27 youth reached per year through these three programs, and, with the support of United Way of Central Mass funding, it will increase to reach 42 youth per year.

**Worcester Youth Center**

**One Circle Program** *(Women’s Initiative)*  
$15,000

One Circle was developed through the support of a planning grant from the Fred H. Daniels Foundation to be girl centered, gender specific, and based on relevant research regarding girls’ needs and best practices. It continues to be successfully implemented as a collaborative effort at three sites: the Worcester Youth Center, the

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Latino Education Institute, and Community Builders at Plumley Village. The program aims to reduce and prevent violence among girls in grades seven and eight by fostering self-esteem, helping girls maintain authentic connections with peers, countering trends toward self-doubt, promoting leadership and community involvement, and allowing for genuine self-expression through verbal sharing and creative activity.

**Worcester Youth Center**

**Work Readiness (C3 Program) $37,500**

The Worcester Youth Center's proposes enhancement of its "Work Readiness " program and activities that will improve the quality and increase the quantity of youth experience in subsidized training placements. Approximately 125 (25 new) youth will complete at minimal 20 hours of basic work readiness and 60 - 80 hours of work experience/internships leading to unsubsidized employment or enrollment in secondary or higher education or a training program.

**Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.**

**ASCEND Program (Women’s Initiative) $28,000**

The ASCEND structured after-school program is a community-based, therapeutic milieu for girls who are facing or have faced serious disruptions in their lives. It is designed to provide therapeutic support and a structured, safe environment 3 days per week during the after-school hours and during the day in summers in order to enable girls to build positive relationships and reduce their risk of violence. The ASCEND Program is utilizing the Girls Circle curriculum to promote self-confidence, trust, positive decision making skills, and positive relationships with peers and adults.

**Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.**

**Dynamy Youth Academy (Education) $40,000**

Dynamy Youth Academy students participate in a 5 year college access/success and leadership program for promising low income public high school students. Students have advisors to monitor progress and performance; adventure trips to develop self-confidence, leadership and community; and they develop portfolios showing formal planning, goal-setting, and self-reflection. Students have internships to explore interests and aptitudes, become knowledgeable about colleges and application process, and participate in community service projects.

**Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.**

**Youth Connect (Education/Family Stability/Health) $540,000**

YouthConnect is an innovative and effective collaboration among Worcester's major youth-serving agencies providing quality out of school time programs to 5300 youth in the city. YouthConnect opens the doorways to hundreds of young people through a partnership that allows a member of ONE partner organization to participate in programs at ALL the others! YouthConnect brings together the best practices of each agency to better serve youth and is now developing common measurements and common outcomes to collectively measure our impact.

**Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.**

**Latino Outreach Services (Education) $23,000**

This program increases access to mental health services for low-income Latino youth and families, targeting school related issues, assisting with improving home-school relationships, providing medication when needed, and preventing out of home placements. For those in need of public assistance, the program connects families with the agency’s Prevention Specialist.

**Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.**

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Therapeutic Support Program (C3 Program) $80,000

The Therapeutic Support Program (TSP) will enhance and expand the previously funded United Way programs of Adolescent Substance Abuse Services and Youth Making a Difference. This comprehensive program will provide up to five days a week of therapeutic group, milieu and family treatment; will provide summer programming to at risk youth; will provide on-site programming around bullying intervention and prevention, substance abuse prevention, anger management, wellness or gender specific treatment at local schools; and will provide direct consultation and training to local school administrators.

YWCA of Central Massachusetts (with Girls Incorporated)

Girls Promoting Safety (Women’s Initiative) $57,876

The YWCA and Girls Inc. are collaborating to deliver Girls Promoting Safety (GPS), a violence prevention program designed to teach and develop skills and competencies that help middle-school aged girls avoid and/or prevent their involvement with violence. GPS uses a blended curriculum that is made up of interactive, research, and evidence-based strategies including Safe Dates, Friendly PEERsuasion and other supporting material.

YWCA of Central Massachusetts

Worcester Early Education and Care (Education) $54,000

The YWCA of Central Massachusetts' Center for Early Education and Care provides accessible, affordable, high quality, full-day, full-year child care for infants and toddlers (1 month to 2.9 years) that is nationally accredited. Through a developmentally appropriate curriculum that focuses on each child's individualized needs, the Center's educated and trained staff provide children with daily interactions and experiences that promote their social/emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development. The Center staff also work to forge strong personal relationships with working families, providing the necessary support services and referrals, to ensure their child's develop to their full potential contributing to their readiness for school.

YWCA of Central Massachusetts

Daybreak Domestic Violence Services (Family Stability) $35,000

The Daybreak program provides a continuum of community-based services (24-hour hotline, court advocacy, safety planning, support groups, counseling, outreach and education) that restore well-being and/or safety to the lives of individuals who have been impacted by domestic violence.

YWCA of Central Massachusetts

Transitional Housing (Safety Net) $67,000

The Transitional Housing Program provides safe, affordable and supportive housing to adult women while they work to build their capacity to achieve stability, independence, and self-sufficiency.

YWCA of Central Massachusetts

Young Parents Program (Family Stability) $45,000

The Young Parents Program, in operation since the mid-1980s, is designed to help teen parents complete their high-school education, gain economic independence and become the best parents they can be. It supports the philosophies of welfare reform that emphasize the need to strengthen families and decrease welfare dependency.

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