



United Way Community Schools

11,200+ Students • 17 Schools • 4 Districts • K-12 Continuum

What is the Community School Model?

At its most basic level, the Community School Model brings resources into the school building to remove non-academic barriers that local low-income children attending public schools may face every day.



Why Community Schools in Erie?

84.5% of students in Community Schools are economically disadvantaged.

How our Model Works

There are 10 measurable goals for United Way's Community Schools under four main pillars, following a national model. The pillars include:

- Increased Access to Health and Wellness Supports
- Increased Access to Enrichment Opportunities
- Increased Family Engagement
- Expansion of Community and Neighborhood Partnerships.



Learn more about
Pillars & Goals

Data-Driven Results

United Way's Community School Model is firmly rooted in data-driven practice, with a team of data professionals supporting every decision. Research consistently shows that non-academic challenges can impact a student's ability to learn. Our approach is strategic and evidence-based, allowing the Community School Model to address these barriers while still allowing school staff to stay focused on academic excellence.



At McKinley, our data is used in so many different ways to ensure we are supporting students, families, and staff. Student data collected showed that students overall were reporting feeling safe at school but were not feeling safe with their peers. From that, we launched our daily classroom Community Circles to help support classroom communication, problem solving, and overall teamwork. - McKinley Elementary United Way Community School Director



The Impact

- Increased # of students participating in after-school programming
- Increased access to basic needs and resources for students and their families
- Improved staff culture and morale
- Increased family engagement through improved communication methods and events
- Increased amount of students accessing community-based field trips and experiences



Learn more about
Community Schools in Erie!

