

## OUR GOAL: Improve Academic Performance and Career Readiness

### BY THE NUMBERS:

**30 Million**

Fewer words heard by  
low-income 4 year olds

**88%**

Kids not reading in  
Kindergarten still struggle in  
Grade 3

**90%**

Accuracy rate of 3rd grade  
outcomes predicting  
graduation rates

**41%**

Marathon County  
ALICE households

### MEET ALICE:

**Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed.** ALICE lives in every community and neighborhood. ALICE is employed at day care centers, nursing homes, retail centers, in offices and assembly plants, but barely gets by, often living paycheck to paycheck. They struggle to make ends meet and are challenged to save money "for a rainy day" or emergencies. Read the complete ALICE research report at: [www.UnitedWayMC.org](http://www.UnitedWayMC.org).

### WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE:

As a community, when we collectively establish methods of connection for youth that are more supportive, less punitive, intentional in linking them to adults who care and create experiences that spark their curiosities and interests, they will feel supported and better able to see their inherent value and capacity to positively contribute to community life.



### 2017 COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Secured grants totaling \$70,000, to implement the Diversion Pilot "Tiers of Support" with D.C. Everest Senior High School, Wausau West High School, and Thomas Jefferson Elementary. Early data suggests a positive trajectory for these efforts. Collectively, 13 students have been referred to truancy court, school year to date (2017-2018), compared to 36 at the same during the 2016-2017 school year.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Student Hiring Fair" welcomed 32 businesses and more than 500 students. This event establishes better bridges to local youth employment.
  - "I was really impressed with this hiring fair! We had about 30 students that gave us their information and we spoke to. Out of those, we have been in touch with about six of them to be considered for employment. We have four students that we are strongly considering hiring..." ~ Henry Y., business owner.
- 194 youth-serving professionals, including multi-district school staff and community-based providers, attended "A Professional Development Day: Resiliency in Children". The day featured "Resilience: The Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope", a documentary that delves into the science of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). 15 local experts led break-out sessions on related and relevant topics.
  - "...ideas to take back to my coworkers for discussion on our practices and how we can build additional supports for children and parents" ~ Sue D., Grant Coordinator / School Counselor
  - "A reminder to be more sensitive to what may be going on and develop a positive trusting relationship with students and parents / caregivers! More may be shared than which benefits the students." ~ Linda H-B., school staff
- Full Coalition meetings included presentations on topics like Human Trafficking and the scope of this issue locally with Wausau Police Dept. and The Women's Community; information sharing on community initiatives like the School-based Counseling Consortium; and networking on priorities like connecting kids to out-of-school time and summer opportunities.

## MYTHBUSTERS: DID YOU KNOW?

**MYTH:** Students in our community feel like they belong and have a positive adult to turn to in their life.

⇒ **FACT:** 27.9% of Marathon County students do not identify as having an adult in their school to talk to if they have a problem.

⇒ **FACT:** Developmental research shows that having one or more caring adults in a child’s life increases the likelihood that they will flourish, and become productive adults themselves.

**MYTH:** Kids are spared from the impacts of things like economic downturns.

⇒ **FACT:** The economic downturn continues to impact the number of economically disadvantaged students in Marathon County schools, from 23% in 2001-02 increasing to 34% in 2016-17.

## GOALS

- Strengthen partnerships between after-school/summer programs and schools.
- Assist parents, guardians, and families in developing the skills to raise successful youth.
- Enhance services for youth in the juvenile justice system.
- Provide professional development for individuals working with youth.
- Build stronger connections amongst businesses, school, and other youth-serving organizations to link kids to employment, apprenticeship, and internship opportunities.
- Educate the community about their role in helping youth reach their personal potential.

## MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Achieve Center	Fellowship of Christian Athletes	Peaceful Solutions Counseling
Adaptive Community	Forward Services Corp	Positive Alternatives
Ascension St. Clare’s Hospital	Girl Scouts of the NWestern Great Lakes	Professional Services Group
Aspirus Wausau Hospital	Highland Community Church	Salvation Army
Big Brothers Big Sisters	Marathon County	Samoset Council Boy Scouts
Boys & Girls Club of the Wausau Area	MCCDA-Head Start	The Neighbors’ Place
Bridge Community Health Clinic	Marathon County Health Department	The Women’s Community
Catholic Charities of Diocese La Crosse	Marathon County Parks Department	True North Counseling & Wellness
Centre For Well-Being	Marathon County Restorative Justice	Village of Rothschild
Children’s Hospital of WI-Community Service	Marathon County Sheriff’s Dept	Wausau Police Department
Compass Counseling	Marathon County Social Services	Wausau School District
CW Solutions	Mirror Image Supervision Services	WI Public Defenders Office
D.C. Everest School District	North Central Health Care	Woodson YMCA, Inc.
Enrich Excel Achieve Learning Academy	Northcentral Technical College	
Everest Metropolitan Police Dept	Northern Valley Inc.	

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## VISION

Youth in Marathon County faced with at-risk factors are inspired and equipped to become positive contributing members of the community.

## MISSION

To create a collaborative system of services and funding that is youth-centered, family-focused, community-based and cost-effective when addressing the strengths and needs of troubled and at-risk youth and their families.

## ON THE HORIZON

In 2018, Partnership for Youth will:

- Host a Student Hiring Fair targeting 50 businesses, 500 students, and securing broader participation across Marathon County School Districts.
- Host an inaugural “Summer Fun Fair” to serve as a one-stop sign-up for all summer activities.
- Host a Professional Development Day offered to school districts County-wide and community-based providers.
- Support the Diversion Pilot “Tiers of Support”:
  - Expand services to include Weston Elementary in the D.C. Everest School District
  - Refine “Tiers of Support” scope of service based on pilot schools reporting on:
    - student and family needs
    - gaps / barriers to access community resources
  - Secure additional grant funding to support services through the 2018-19 school year and beyond.