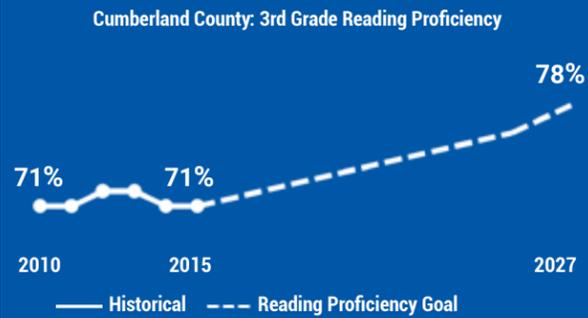


GOAL 1: Every child has quality early learning experiences beginning at birth.

By 2027, 78% of children read proficiently at the end of third grade.



Maine Department of Education. Maine DOE Data Warehouse. NECAP Assessment Reading Scores (May 2016).

WHY GOAL 1 MATTERS

Only **35%** of economically disadvantaged children in Cumberland County are reading at grade level by the end of third grade.

Children who do not read at grade level by the end of third grade are **4X** more likely not to graduate from high school compared to children who are reading at grade level.



7,037 children in Cumberland County live in poverty, and **13,167** children qualify for free or reduced school lunch.

PROGRESS: UNITED WAY INVESTMENTS IN ACTION

30 businesses, schools, and non-profits in Portland and **46** in Westbrook are working closely together to improve educational outcomes for children through Starting Strong and Westbrook Children's Project.

1,410 children, ages 5-9, attended enrichment programs to support their learning, growth, and development.

680 parents participated in programs to develop and enhance their parenting skills.

662 young children attended high-quality early childhood programs.



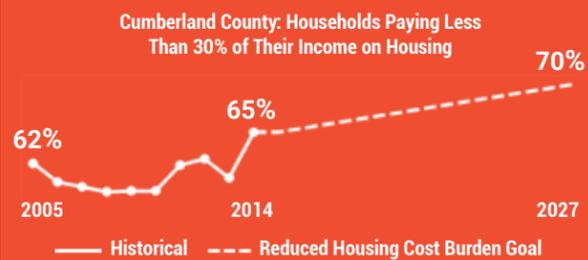
HEADED FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Living with six adults in a two-bedroom apartment, Adam's family was referred to Early Head Start for unsafe living conditions. He had no exposure to books, was close to non-verbal, and showed aggression toward animals.

Early Head Start put Adam on a path to a brighter future. With the introduction of books and intentional learning activities, Adam's vocabulary grew steadily and his aggression disappeared. His family received the support they needed to find stable employment and housing, giving them the time and energy to focus on Adam's development. The whole family made fantastic strides and have found confidence in their abilities.

GOAL 2: Individuals & families have the education, employment opportunities, and resources to achieve financial stability.

By 2027, 70% of households pay less than 30% of their income on housing.



U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2005 through 2014, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table DP04 (April 2016).

WHY GOAL 2 MATTERS

40,330 Cumberland County residents do not have enough food to consistently meet their basic nutritional needs.

46% of Cumberland County adults living in poverty are working.

Of Cumberland County public school 11th graders, only **49%** are at or above state expectations in math, and only **68%** in English Language Arts/Literacy.



1 in 4 Cumberland County seniors are living on less than \$23,540 per year.

PROGRESS: UNITED WAY INVESTMENTS IN ACTION

\$1,134,006 in state and federal income tax refunds were returned to individuals and households using free tax preparation services.

2,902 middle and high school youth participated in programs to help keep them on track to graduate high school.

1,546 seniors saved **\$7.4 million** in assisted living costs by receiving supportive services in their home.

228 people secured employment.

609,281 emergency meals provided.

210 individuals secured safe, affordable housing.

FINDING STABILITY IN A NEW HOME

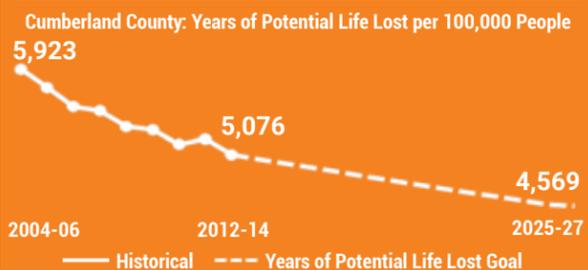
Jonathan, a teenage new Mainer, found safe shelter, meals, clothing, laundry, and case management services at a Portland agency.

With that support, he obtained his high school diploma and participated in a job training program. He was selected for transitional housing and finally felt comfortable enough to talk about his PTSD symptoms. A caseworker connected Jonathan to a support group in the local refugee community and to legal support for his asylum process.

Jonathan received a scholarship to help him attend a local college and now works in the social service sector, providing guidance to others who are experiencing homelessness.

GOAL 3: Children, adults, and communities have the resources & opportunities to achieve optimal health status.

By 2027, 4,569 Years of Potential Life Lost per 100,000 people.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Health Indicators Warehouse. Retrieved from health indicators (June 2016).

WHY GOAL 3 MATTERS

21% of adults in Maine have a diagnosable mental illness.

14% of Cumberland County high school students have seriously considered suicide.

59% of adults and **23%** of high school students in Cumberland County are overweight or obese.



In 2016, more than one person a day died of a drug overdose in Maine.

There were **376** overdose deaths in 2016, an increase of **104** over 2015.

PROGRESS: UNITED WAY INVESTMENTS IN ACTION

522 children were supported while confronting the death or impending loss of a family member.

155 child care centers, schools, out-of-school programs, and health care practices supported healthy choices for children and families.



7,334 youth and adults received support and services to address mental health and/or substance use disorders.

196 children and adolescents participated in programs designed to support their social and emotional growth.

BACK ON TRACK TO SUCCESS

John, 35, came to a Greater Portland social service agency for a six-month program, after a third unsuccessful treatment experience. Due to his dependency on alcohol and opiates, John was estranged from his wife and children and had lost his job.

Having found the right program, he immersed himself in group counseling, 12-step community programming, and community service. He also returned to work. John now resides in supportive transitional housing, where he can check in with counselors and attend events with his children. He is about to celebrate a year of sobriety and now has regular visitation with his children.

United Way focuses on the building blocks of a good life:

**EDUCATION,
FINANCIAL STABILITY,
and HEALTH.**

In 2015-16, United Way led a year-long volunteer-driven process to establish a shared vision for Greater Portland.

THRIVE2027

is a set of three, 10-year goals created by and for Greater Portland, which serve as a blueprint for a stronger community.

More than 130 organizations in Cumberland County have endorsed Thrive2027. United Way is aligning its work with these goals as well.

ARE YOU IN?



GIVE. 13,000 people and 463 companies donated \$8,012,200 to address community needs during United Way's 2016 campaign.

In 2016, United Way successfully advocated in Augusta to ensure children in child care are being cared for by individuals who have completed a criminal background check.

VOLUNTEER. 2,781 volunteers donated 20,359 hours with United Way in 2016.

ADVOCATE.

2017 COMMUNITY REPORT



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