ENSURING OUR KIDS ARE EQUIPPED FOR SUCCESS FROM BIRTH THROUGH CAREER. Education is the cornerstone of individual and community success. It opens kids up to a world of possibilities and builds confidence, skills and a foundation for the future. It is crucial to reach kids before they start school and support our kids by walking beside classroom teachers throughout their education. Once a child falls behind, it can be difficult to catch up.

OUR GOALS & INVESTMENTS

Children enter kindergarten developmentally ready to learn
Programs we invest in:
• Preschool Scholarships | Greater Midland Community Center, Greater Midland North & Coleman Family Centers, West Midland Family Center
• Imagination Library | Midland County ESA

Children are reading proficiently by 3rd grade
Programs we invest in:
• LunchBox Learners | Big Brothers Big Sisters
• Barton Tutoring | The Legacy Center for Community Success

Students have responsible, caring adults in their lives
Programs we invest in:
• 1-to-1 Mentoring | Big Brothers Big Sisters
• College Opportunity | West Midland Family Center

Students are equipped with the skills for success in school, life and the workforce
Programs we invest in:
• Scholarships & Training | Boy Scouts
• Discover You and Grounded After-school | The ROCK
• Teen Development | North Midland Family Center
• STAGES | Disability Network

COMMUNITY ISSUES

Kindergarten Readiness
75% of children that enter kindergarten behind will never catch up to their peers.

Reading At Grade Level
Nearly 45% of 3rd grade students in Midland County are not reading at grade level.

Youth Mentoring
Children with a mentor are 76% more likely to enroll in college.

Skills Building
33% of local students don’t feel engaged at school.
INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES ARE HEALTHY AND SAFE. The health of our citizens is a strong indicator of a thriving community. Achieving and maintaining safety along with physical and mental health is important in all stages of life and reaches beyond clinical care. Research shows that social, economic and health behaviors contribute up to 70% of an individual's long-term health outcomes.

OUR GOALS & INVESTMENTS

Everyone has access to healthy foods, exercise and adopts healthy habits.

Programs we invest in:
- Meals on Wheels | Senior Services
- Food Rescue and Redistribution | Hidden Harvest
- Youth & Adult Fitness | Greater Midland North & Coleman Family Centers
- Youth, Senior & Adult Fitness | Greater Midland Community Center

Youth and adults avoid risky behaviors.

Programs we invest in:
- Addiction Recovery | Family & Children's Services
- Center for Wellness, Recovery and Detox | Ten16 Recovery Network

Individuals are emotionally and physically healthy and safe.

Programs we invest in:
- Forensic Interviewing | Safe and Sound Child Advocacy Center
- Domestic/Sexual Assault Shelter, Counseling & Advocacy | Shelterhouse
- Disaster Services | American Red Cross
- Services to Armed Services | American Red Cross
- Counseling & Crisis Calls | Family & Children's Services
- Transportation | Senior Services
- Counseling & Support Groups | Cancer Services
- Information & Referral | 211

COMMUNITY ISSUES

Fitness
2 out of 3 Midland County adults report being overweight/obese

Access to Healthy Food
12% of Midland County used food stamps/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months

Mental Health
Nearly 1 in 5 adults has a diagnosed mental illness.

Domestic/Sexual Violence
Over 1 in 3 women and 1 in 7 men will experience sexual or physical violence in their lifetime

Addiction Recovery
33% of local students don't feel engaged at school.
HOUSEHOLD STABILITY

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES HAVE LONG-TERM STABILITY AND INDEPENDENCE. Our community thrives when everyone is empowered and equipped for success. With the right tools, individuals and families can secure good jobs, safe and affordable housing, success for children and achieve financial stability. While they’re getting there, it’s important to have a safety net to meet their needs on their path toward independence.

OUR GOALS & INVESTMENTS

Individuals have the skills to secure and maintain gainful employment
Programs we invest in:
• Fresh Start Employment | Ten16 Recovery Network
• Community Employment | Arnold Center

Families and individuals are able to meet their basic needs
Programs we invest in:
• Emergency Assistance | Salvation Army
• Family Support Services | Greater Midland Coleman & North Family Centers and West Midland Family Center

Individuals are equipped to understand and manage their finances
Programs we invest in:
• Financial and Transportation Assistance | Cancer Services
• Personal Representative Service | The Arc of Midland
• Senior Tax Assistance | Greater Midland Community Center

Individuals and families have stable and affordable housing
Programs we invest in:
• Residential Housing | Ten16 Recovery Network
• Homeless Prevention and Home Repair | Home to Stay

Families have access to affordable, high-quality day care
Programs we invest in:
• Childcare Scholarships | Greater Midland Community Center, Greater Midland North & Coleman Family Centers, West Midland Family Center and Camp Fire

COMMUNITY ISSUES

Stable Housing
40.6% of Midland County residents are spending 35% or more of their income on rent.

Affordable Childcare
Married parents with 2 children living at the poverty line pay 78.4% of their household income for child care.

Job Skills/Employment
A family of four needs $30.64 per hour just to make ends meet. Low wages for ALICE households make it more difficult to meet their basic budget or save for the future.