

**Public/Private Partnership for the
Northside Early Childhood Zone (NECZ)**

**Purpose Statement
10/28/16**

Zone History

In 2013, Dane County Department of Human Services and United Way of Dane County launched the first Early Childhood Zone in the Leopold School enrollment area. In 2014, two new ECZs were added, one in Sun Prairie and another in Verona Sugar Creek area. The Northside Early Childhood Zone will open in January 2017.

The vision of the Early Childhood Zones is that young children grow to their potential from birth with families that are stable in employment and in the community, ensuring that children are ready for kindergarten at age 4.

Reaching this vision will make closing the achievement gap a reality.

Northside Early Childhood Zone

The new Northside Early Childhood Zone (NECZ) will be a public/private partnership among the city of Madison, Dane County, United Way and the Oscar Rennebohm Foundation. It will encompass the geographic area of the Blackhawk Middle School elementary schools. The Northside Early Childhood Zone will follow the same vision established for prior Zones and provide the core components of

1. home visitation services for families with children birth to age four
2. housing case management
3. employment and training support

In addition, the NECZ will be an enhanced zone and will extend home visiting program opportunities for eligible women who are pregnant or give birth starting January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 or fathers who are primary caretakers of newborns and who are living in the NECZ. The enhancements will also address the need for providing adequate childcare opportunities and support for mental health needs. New positions in this Zone will include: a Zone Coordinator, Neighborhood Early Childhood Navigators and a Program Evaluator to ensure long term learning and change to better our community.

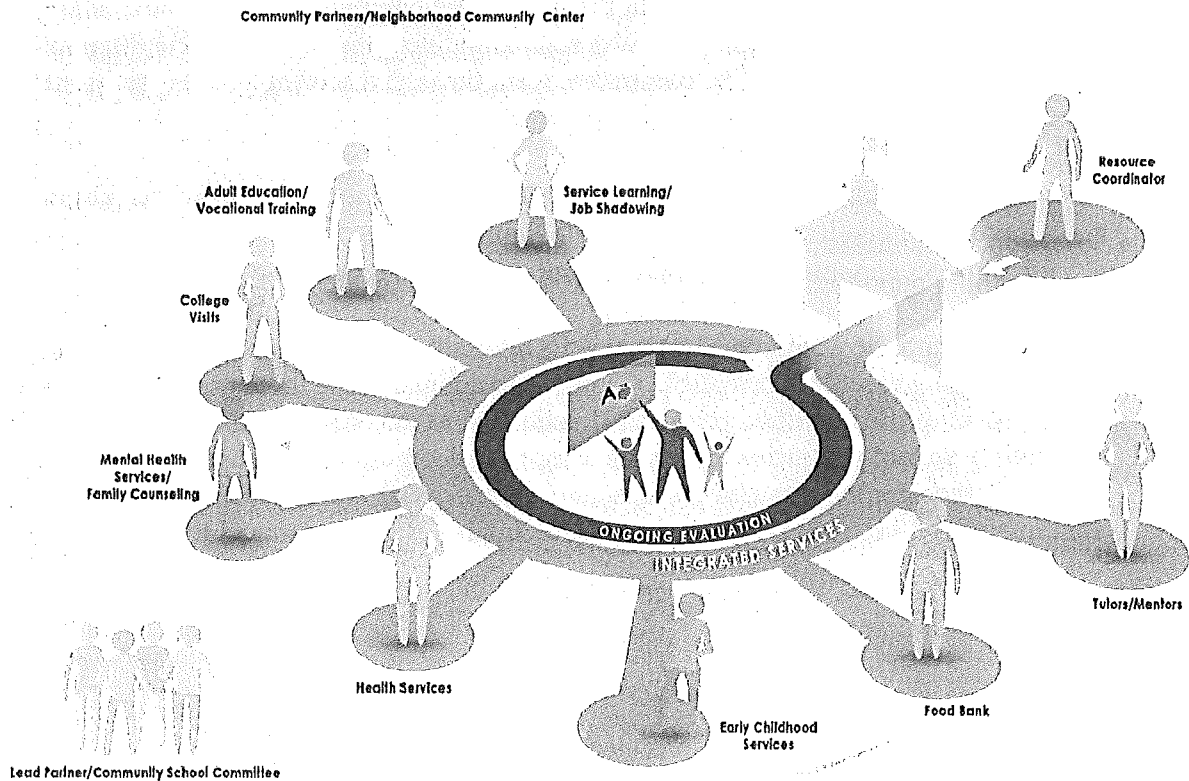
Strong Neighborhood

The Northside Early Childhood Zone services will be co-located in a convenient space and will establish partnerships within this vibrant neighborhood by:

- Engaging with the already strong Neighborhood Centers to attract young parents to program possibilities
- Growing leadership already present in neighborhood members
- Increasing childcare opportunities as both a service to children and an employment opportunity for neighborhood members
- Establishing relationships with neighborhood businesses and organizations
- Working closely with MMSD and the Community School
- Partnering with health care services

Mendota Elementary Community School

*A Community School is a welcoming and inclusive place that builds on the assets of the community to help serve the **identified needs** of the students, families and community through well integrated and coordinated, **strategic partnerships**.*



Based on the Madison Community School Framework developed in 2015, Community Schools integrate programming and services that students, families and community members feel is needed — health care, academic tutoring, mentoring, food access, parent leadership opportunities and more — directly into schools, making them hubs of coordinated support.

In April 2015 the Madison Community Foundation awarded MMSD a three-year \$300,000 grant to support community planning and implementation of four Community Schools. Leopold Elementary School and Mendota Elementary School were selected to become the first Community Schools starting in the 2016-17 school year. Both Leopold and Mendota have a resource coordinator tasked with planning and facilitating programs and services for families, students and the community. Each school analyzed the assets

City of Madison – Community Development Division

Initiative: Madison's Northside: A Safe and Thriving Community

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Justice - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Federal Project Name: Safe and Thriving Communities: Uniting and Enhancing Community-Based Violence Prevention, Defending Childhood, and National Forum Approaches

Purpose: The Safe and Thriving Communities Initiative seeks to prevent and respond to children's exposure to violence, youth violence, and victimization, especially gun and gang violence, through comprehensive approaches to violence and victimization

Award Amount: \$750,000

Project Period: 10/1/2016 – 9/30/2018 *

* It is anticipated that the project period will be extended.

Madison's Theory: The City of Madison and its project partners believe that we can improve the effectiveness of our programs, leading to reduced violence and victimization, by integrating services and identifying gaps and effective, but under-resourced, programs. By coordinating services, we can build the capacity and impact of our services systems, increase protective factors, and decrease risk factors. By bringing together a place-based collaborative on Madison's Northside, we can build community cohesion and create a durable community framework to address the causes of violence and victimization.

Madison's Safe and Thriving Community Initiative: The Northside Collaborative, a partnership of over 25 organizations and individuals, will join together in a 7-month planning process to create a Strategic Plan. The Plan will identify community-defined activities to pursue the following goals:

- Create broad-based community recognition, understanding, and collective efficacy for shared action to address youth violence and victimization; and the impact of children's exposure to violence;
- Enhance existing youth violence and gang prevention strategies ;
- Improve coordination and efficacy of services to improve family stability for children/ youth at-risk of, victimized by and or impacted by violence; and,
- Reduce youth violence and improve community safety through building trust, enhancing racial justice, and increasing efforts that lead to community healing.

Phase I – Northside Collaborative Develops Strategic Plan (up to 7 months)

Guidance and support for the planning process will be provided by the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF). Additional community engagement support, administrative duties and process evaluation will be provided by the Northside Collaborative Coordinator (employee of the Community Development Division). WCCF will provide stipends for residents and participating organizations.

Phase II – Implementation (17 months)

Depending upon the outcome of the planning process, the Collaborative will examine the possibilities for expansion and integration of violence prevention and intervention strategies and services. For example, a single point of entry for family services, increased youth employment and paid internship programs or data sharing among providers may be an outcome. A social worker attached to the Northside Police District may help to connect youth to social services immediately upon contact with the police; build relationships between youth, families, and police; and, create a strong connection between police and supportive services. Up to \$550,000 will be available for Implementation.

Status 1/4/17 – We submitted and received approval from the DOJ Finance Office for our revised budget. The 7-mos planning phase will begin when all of our special conditions and all of the special conditions of the other grantees have been cleared. We have one special condition (on-line financial management training) yet to be cleared. We will get an update on the other grantees and a possible starting date for the planning process on 1/6/17. The sole source contract with WCCF for the planning phase and the LTE Coordinator position in CDD were approved in the City's 2017 budget. The position was posted on 12/20/16 with a closing date of 1/22/17.