Women United is proud to grant $133,250, through its Little Kids, Big Futures Philanthropy Fund, to support six critical early literacy programs that will ensure the foundation for strong and successful academic futures for children in Lake County. Since 2014, Women United has granted $370,000 to worthy early literacy programs.

$60,000
Success By 6
Kindergarten Countdown Camp
Beach Park, North Chicago, Round Lake & Waukegan

United Way’s Kindergarten Countdown Camp ensures that children who are entering kindergarten with little or no preschool experience get the basic skills they need to start school prepared.

$24,000
B.E.S.T. Pre-K Program
Round Lake

Funding will continue to allow this Round Lake Park District program to provide 20 scholarships for children who otherwise would not have access to preschool. With this opportunity, children will be prepared for kindergarten and ready to learn.

$23,000
Success By 6
Home Visiting
North Chicago, Waukegan & Zion

This United Way program provides in-home early intervention for families with infants and preschool-age children who struggle with poverty and have limited access to health and community services.

$15,000
Better Together
Green Bay Early Childhood Center, North Chicago

This early learning program focuses on family engagement and skill building for children 0-3 years old by providing individualized attention.

$8,000
Early Learning Clubs
Waukegan Public Library

Early Learning Clubs provide children entering kindergarten with the basic skills they need to be ready and able to learn while empowering parents to be their child’s first teacher.

$3,250
HUGS Baby Talk Initiative
Waukegan

This year, Women United’s HUGS (Heroines United for Giving and Support) initiative started a new partnership with Waukegan’s Baby Talk program that identifies families with children ages 0-3 in need of early intervention programming and education services.

Women United is a critical community within United Way of Lake County that fights for the education of our youngest learners in Lake County’s most vulnerable communities.