

ORANGE COUNTY'S FACE 2024 REPORT

Community Scorecard: 2018–2019



19



A MISSION TO IMPROVE LIVES

FACE 2024 2.0 is our update to the strategic plan designed by our community to address Orange County's most critical issues. With two of the four original FACE 2024 goals achieved, our sights are set on next-level outcomes to improve local lives in the areas of education, health, housing and financial stability.

We're focused on this mission—and we're there for our community in crisis. When the COVID-19 pandemic arrived, many of our neighbors' needs were suddenly intensified. We adjusted our strategies and rapidly accelerated support for those who were most vulnerable.

With the unified energy and resources of volunteers and donors, we created the Orange County United Way Pandemic Relief Fund. This Fund was established to assist thousands of households at imminent risk of homelessness as well as the shelter system that serves Orange County's homeless population. To provide books and support to low-income students. And to power our partnerships with other nonprofits to supply basic needs such as food to our most vulnerable individuals and families.

Building for a Future of Equity

This is our purpose in action: a long-term mission to improve lives coupled with a commitment to respond to the immediate needs of our neighbors. Our drivers are intertwined, just as we're all connected as residents of Orange County.

As we measure and meet our FACE 2024 2.0 goals in the future, we acknowledge that Orange County's situation has changed along with the world's. That makes United Way's work even more relevant. To make a bigger difference in people's lives, we must close more gaps, remove more barriers and level the playing field for every single person who lives here.

The annual scorecard reports on what we've learned and how we continue to collaboratively create solutions for complex and interconnected challenges. We're proud of our community. And we clearly see where more can be done. To achieve equity and improve the lives of Orange County's individuals and families, we must work as a team to do even more.

We work actively and collaboratively for equity for our children, self-sufficiency for our families, and humanity for our homeless neighbors who can't help themselves.



See this Scorecard on Video

Watch these videos for more findings and stories of hope from our FACE 2024 2.0 work.

Progress in Education and Health for Our Children

bit.ocuw.org/2020children

Progress in Income for Our Struggling Families

bit.ocuw.org/2020families

Progress in Housing for Our Homeless Neighbors

bit.ocuw.org/2020neighbors

Read our Annual Report

Learn more about how we're improving lives and transforming Orange County's future.

Orange County United Way 2019 Annual Report

unitedwayoc.org/annualreport





EDUCATION

FACE 2024 2.0 GOAL

Increase the high school graduation rate to 95% among students from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds

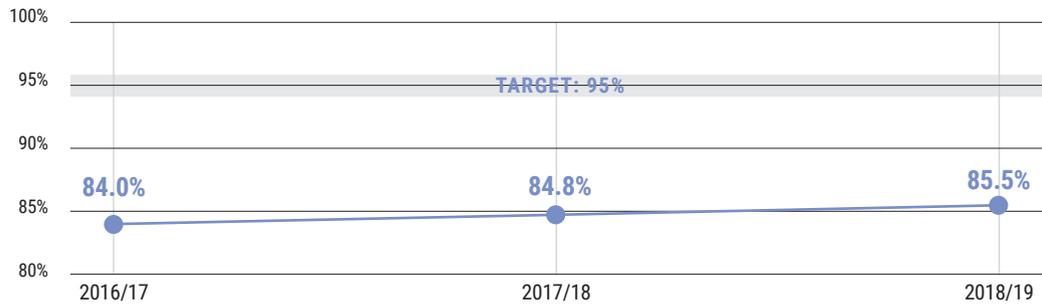
THE PROGRESS



We believe everyone should have access to quality education and the opportunity to graduate on time.

As reported in the 2019 Orange County Community Indicators report, the graduation rate for socioeconomically disadvantaged students in 2018/2019 was 85.5%. This rate was 10.1% lower than for students who are not socioeconomically disadvantaged. And while this gap represents a slight improvement over the previous year (10.7% difference in 2017/2018), even one high school dropout is too many.

Our community is making steady progress, but there's a long way to go. Most underserved school districts in OC continue to struggle to support students who need the most help. We understand the need to holistically prepare students to succeed in their educational journeys—from early learning programs to workforce development and beyond.



Due to changes in methodology, four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate data are only available for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 school years. A student is considered socioeconomically disadvantaged if they are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals and neither of the student's parents received a high school diploma.

Source: California Department of Education, Dataquest, 2018

UNITED WAY IN ACTION

5,390 underrepresented middle and high school students received academic and social support through Destination Graduation

1,702 students experienced work-based learning in our Youth Career Connections program

Foundational Work: Early Grade Reading Efforts

Ensuring Orange County students learn to read early so they're ready to learn. Because a better education can lead to a better life.

10,400 books collected and distributed in the community

430 community partners

569 children (K-3) improved and/or achieved developmental milestones



HEALTH

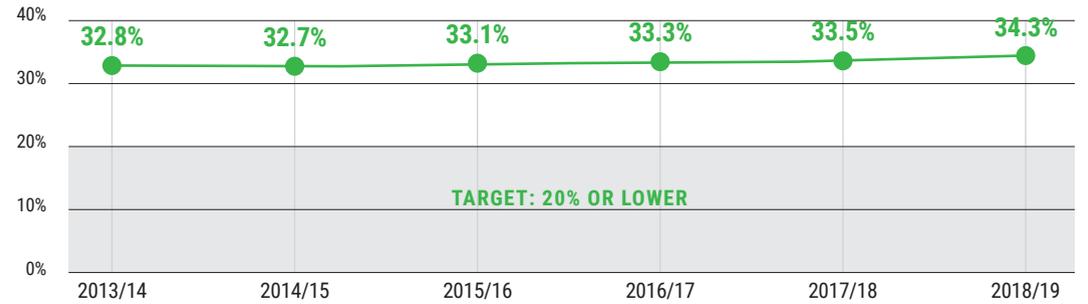
FACE 2024 2.0 GOAL

Cut the childhood obesity rate by 1/3

THE PROGRESS



When FACE 2024 was developed, nearly one-third of our children were overweight or obese. **Currently, one-third of our children remain overweight or obese.**



Data reflects fifth, seventh and ninth grade students in Orange County. In 2014, the California Department of Education modified the body composition standards to be more aligned with the Center for Disease Control percentiles to identify lean, normal, overweight and obese students.

Source: California Department of Education Physical Fitness Test

Childhood obesity remains difficult to stabilize and combat. In the last year, we've focused on schools with the highest proportion of students who are overweight or obese. Our Healthy Schools Initiative tackles this issue beginning at the school level and on to encourage more involvement from parents and school administration.

We also piloted a second effort through our Healthy Food Provision initiative to address childhood hunger and food insecurity in the Centralia School District. In partnership with the CEO Leadership Alliance of Orange County (CLA-OC), we brought an innovative food truck model of delivering wholesome food options like fresh fruits and vegetables to children in all eight elementary schools in the district.

Looking forward, our goal will encompass physical, mental, emotional and other components that contribute to a young person's health. The health of our children is the foundation for the health of everyone in our community.

UNITED WAY IN ACTION

1,878 elementary students and parents from our Healthy Schools Initiative enjoyed guided physical activity and nutrition education

National Recognition All 4 OC schools in our initiative received the national Healthy Schools designation

Foundational Work: Healthy Food Provision

Helping more people get access to nutritious and affordable food. Because a full stomach with healthy food is vital for optimal living.

5,942,172 pounds of food collected and distributed

175,813 households served healthy meals

HOUSING

FACE 2024 2.0 GOAL

End homelessness by achieving functional zero within targeted populations

The original FACE 2024 goal was to cut the percentage of homeless and housing-insecure children in half. But as we've learned more, our strategy has shifted.

We remain focused on ending homelessness for good in our community within targeted populations (veterans, families and persons with disabilities, among others). We're working to achieve functional zero through our efforts led by United to End Homelessness and programs such as WelcomeHomeOC. Functional zero is a data approach that measures when a community has reached the goal of homelessness being manageable, meaning that the availability of services and resources matches or exceeds the demand for them.

Additionally, we're more confident in the accuracy of the data. New methodology in Orange County's biennial Point-In-Time Count breaks down the 6,860 homeless individuals into specific populations. Having these results is critically important in our work to end homelessness.



Source: County of Orange, Point-In-Time Count, 2019

In 2019, we proudly launched WelcomeHomeOC, which helps members of our community with a housing voucher end their homelessness. This program helps place them in apartments and ensures they have case management support to maintain their housing. We provide financial incentives to landlords (such as security deposits and other assurances) to encourage them to rent to individuals and families with a housing voucher.

UNITED WAY IN ACTION

100+ housed in the first 12 months of our WelcomeHomeOC program

38 property owners joined our WelcomeHomeOC network to provide housing units

Foundational Work: Public Awareness and Advocacy Initiative

Changing hearts and minds and engaging our community to help end homelessness in OC. Because everyone should have a place to call home.

5,379 people attended our informational sessions about homelessness

18 out of 34 cities in OC hosted Homelessness 101 classes

INCOME

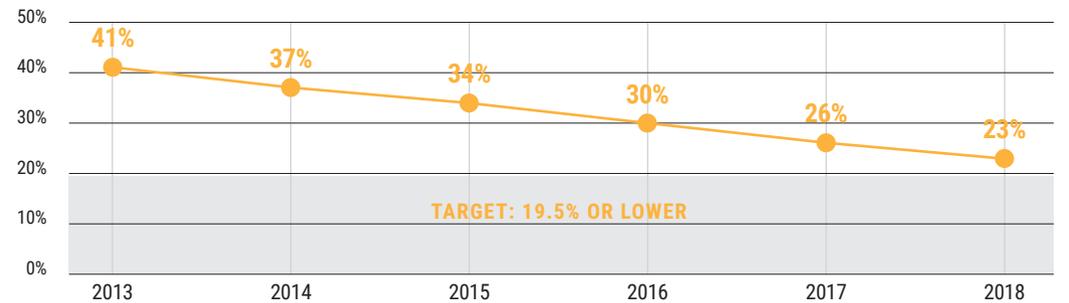
FACE 2024 2.0 GOAL

Reduce family financial instability by another 25%

THE PROGRESS



In the early days of FACE 2024, 41% of our neighborhoods had a high concentration of families living in financially unstable circumstances. **Today, 23% have a high concentration of financially unstable families.**



Source: FFSI - FFSI OC, 2019

To continue progress toward our goal, we must address the skills gap for middle-skill jobs, which are positions that require more than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree. In Orange County, there are many workers who are unemployed or in low-wage positions who can be trained for these jobs. At the same time, local businesses need to fill thousands of open middle-skills positions.

Our UpSkill OC program directly connects candidates to training, support and these jobs by partnering with local businesses. When residents make enough through better-paying jobs, they can afford housing, support their families and be on the path to long-term careers.

In 2020, the impact of COVID-19 will be significant for Orange County's workforce. As always, we will be here to help residents and their families increase opportunities for financial independence.

UNITED WAY IN ACTION

203 families became stably housed after achieving financial stability through our SparkPoint OC program

UpSkill OC workforce development program celebrated its one-year anniversary

Foundational Work: OC Free Tax Prep Campaign

Assisting low-income working families to collect their tax refunds and credits. Because helping community members access the funds and financial assistance they've earned is good for them, their families and our local economy.

20,750 OC taxpayers received free services to help them file their returns

\$21.9 million impact in Orange County (\$17.7 million in federal refunds and \$4.2 million saved in tax preparation fees)

JOIN OUR TEAM

Unite with us to create lasting change that will make our community a better and more equitable place for everyone.

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