PARTNERS IN INNOVATION

Full Lives embodies Greater Twin Cities United Way’s Innovation for Impact model, tackling big challenges with big ideas through collaboration and connection to amplify promising change strategies. United Way is deeply appreciative of the General Mills Foundation’s investment and partnership as well as the support of our partners between 2017-2019 to make Full Lives and the improvement of the local food system in North Minneapolis possible.
TARGETED FOOD SECURITY INVESTMENT

Some Twin Cities communities experience hunger and face barriers to fresh and affordable food. Consistent and equitable access to fresh, affordable, healthy food profoundly impacts a person’s overall quality of life and health outcomes.

Greater Twin Cities United Way envisions a united community where all people realize their full potential, regardless of income, race or place. Home to over 60,000 residents, North Minneapolis is a vibrant and diverse community but faces challenges of poverty and inequitable healthy food access. Together, North Minneapolis is designing and leading powerful efforts to address these barriers by centering food justice and racial equity to allow a community to drive food systems change.

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

United Way launched Full Lives, a place-based, community driven grantmaking program to strengthen a healthy, equitable and secure community food system in North Minneapolis. Over two years, $1.5 million was invested in innovative local food system projects by a cohort of 11 organizations.

Projects included new community gardens, senior food access projects, community food justice coalition building, incubation of new food businesses and farmers markets, and the development of a new grocery store. Full Lives supports sustainable food security across the entire community, recognizing that equitable policy, systems, and environmental changes are needed to create just, healthy food environments.
For more info about Greater Twin Cities United Way and the Full Lives initiative, please visit www.gtcuw.org