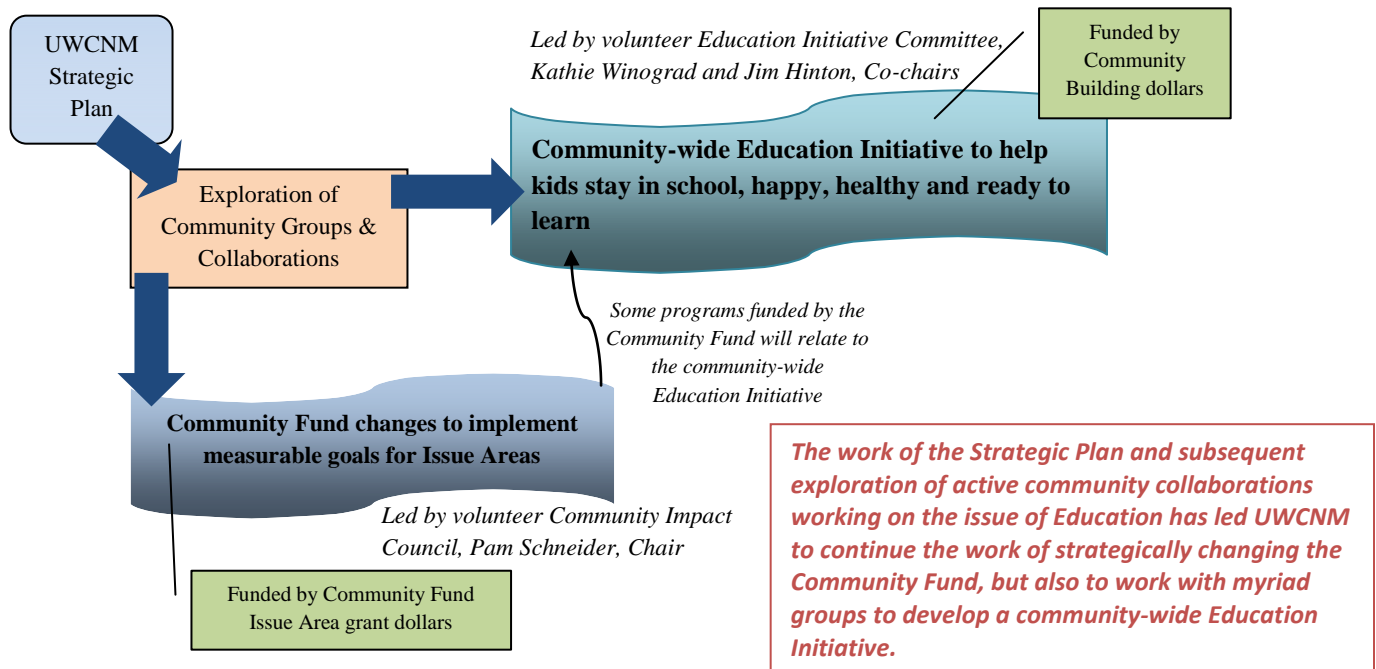


## UWCNM Community Fund Strategic Plan and the Education Initiative

In September 2010, the volunteer-led Strategic Plan Implementation Team selected seven recommendations from the UWCNM Strategic Plan from which action steps would be developed. *Revision of the Community Fund Grant Model* was one of those. The first step was to conduct a needs assessment, which resulted in the UNM Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) report titled, “Central New Mexico Education Needs Assessment.” In addition to commissioning the BBER study, UWCNM staff also attended numerous community coalition and collaborative partnership meetings to research education support work currently in progress.



We are now at a juncture that takes the *Revision of the Community Fund Grant Model* in two directions:

*Today, the Community Fund is an annual competitive grant process, in 2011-12 funding 110 programs serving a wide variety of needs. The strategic goal is to bring agencies and volunteers together to set measurable goals for each Issue Area.*

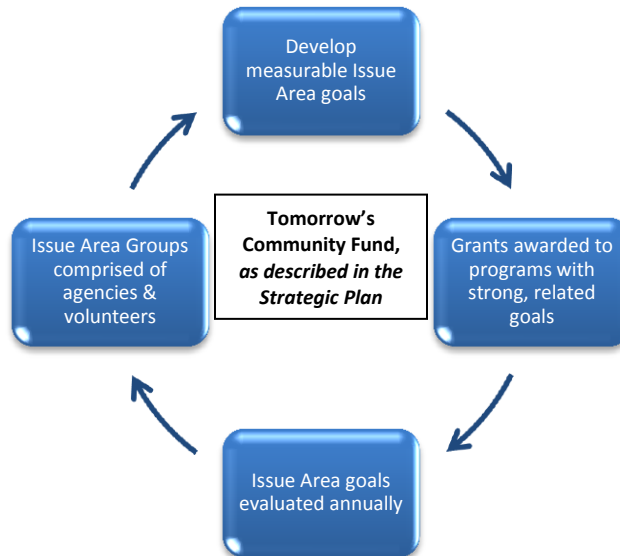


- At the **Community Fund** level, the work of implementing the specific recommendations in the Strategic Plan must continue. The Community Impact Council (the volunteer group which oversees the Community Fund) will continue implementation of the *Revision of the Community Fund Grant Model*, as described in the Strategic Plan. Currently funded agencies will be part of this evolution:
  - By issue area, groups comprised of agency representatives and volunteers will establish measureable goals for each issue area within the Community Fund.
  - Community Fund grants will be awarded to programs whose goals relate directly to those measureable issue area goals.

## UWCNM Community Fund Strategic Plan and the Education Initiative

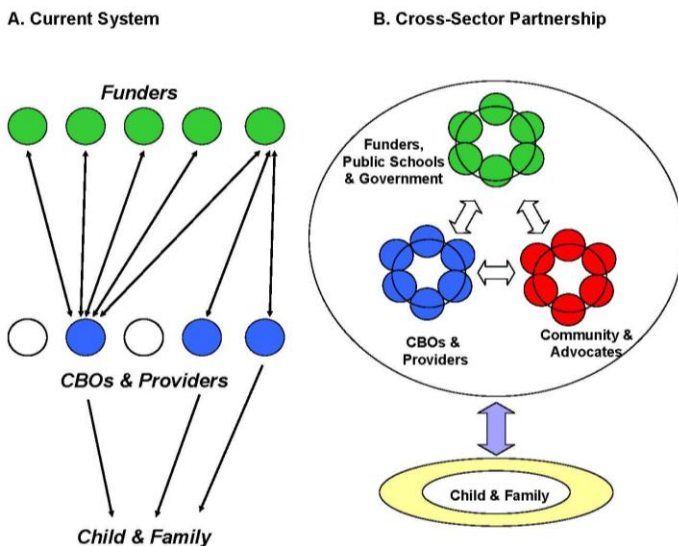
- Issue area goals will be evaluated annually by the same groups (comprised of agency representatives and volunteers).

*Tomorrow's Community Fund will ensure that donors know exactly what their dollars will fund in each Issue Area. UWCNM and agencies receiving Community Fund grants will be able to answer the question, "What does the Community Fund do?" with specific, measurable goals.*



- At the community-wide level, it has become apparent that UWCNM can and should work with other community leaders, including APS, CNM, UNM, local cities and counties and many nonprofit organizations and foundations, to develop the concept of Collective Impact around Education Support Services. This **Education Initiative** will necessarily involve the work of the Community Fund changes, but will be much broader and involve other funders, as well as businesses and agencies that both receive funds from UWCNM and others that do not. The Education Initiative will be led by volunteers other than the Community Impact Council. Ultimately, agencies receiving Community Fund grants that provide education support services, such as out-of-school time programs or tutoring, will likely be related to the larger community-wide efforts of the Education Initiative.

FIGURE 8: SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION SERVICE FUNDING AND PROVISION



*This graphic from the UNM Bureau of Business and Economic Research Education Needs Assessment demonstrates how neither funding nor services are aligned or coordinated for the benefit of children and their families. The goal of the community-wide Education Initiative will be to highlight, align and coordinate successful community programs serving children from cradle to career to keep them in school, happy, healthy and ready to learn.*

*UWCNM will work with all four counties of central New Mexico—Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance and Valencia—to determine how best to support local education support efforts.*

Reports from the three Education Forum meetings we hosted last fall plus other information about our fledgling Education Initiative are available on our website at [http://www.uwcnm.org/about/education\\_initiative.cfm](http://www.uwcnm.org/about/education_initiative.cfm). To learn more, contact Jennifer Mastripolito, Chief Development Officer, at 247-3671, x746 or [jennifer.mastripolito@uwcnm.org](mailto:jennifer.mastripolito@uwcnm.org).