THE NEED FOR ON-TIME HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION:

- Full-time workers with a high school degree earned approximately 24% more than their counterparts without a high school degree.
- In 2020, workers with a high school diploma (but without a college degree) earn an average of $8,400 more per year than those without a diploma.
- Programs that encourage high school completion can improve the graduation rates of high-risk students and communities.

Increased educational attainment can lead to:
- Access to better living conditions
- Healthier foods
- Better health care services
- Potential to improve population health

Current graduation rates:
- Hillsborough County: 89% (13,801 out of 15,477)
- Pinellas County: 92% (6,943 out of 7,549)

Eviction and Housing Partners in the Sarasota, Manatee, and Desoto region:
- All Faiths Food Bank
- Women’s Resource Center
- Glasser-Schoenbaum
- Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice
- Gulfcoast Legal
- Suncoast Community Mediation

WHAT IS UWS DOING TO FILL THE GAPS?

**Investment: $613,000 into 13 Youth Success programs**
- Within this year our partners helped over 300 youth gain work experience via jobs or internships.
- Our partners helped over 5,800 youth gain essential skills related to career readiness and trajectory.

In addition to United Way Suncoast investment into youth success programming, our community partners list the follow as the top supporters of their programming:
1. United Way Suncoast
2. Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County
3. State of Florida Department of Education

OPERATION GRADUATE

United Way Suncoast leads the Operation Graduate Program, which addresses the need for increased High School Graduation rates by providing ongoing mentoring, tutoring, credit recovery, and college enrollment programs. This year the program directly connected with 184 students to help advance their academic success.

Operation Graduate is a partnership between:
- United Way Suncoast
- Clearwater Police Department
- Pinellas County School District
- St. Petersburg College

SOURCE: N. Greenwood - United Way Suncoast