



## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

**A high school diploma is a critical milestone on the path to a post-secondary degree and/or a self-sustaining career.**

Whether you are headed to college, pursuing a credential or beginning your career, a high school diploma is essential. High school graduates have a higher earning potential, contribute more to our local economy and are more engaged in the community. Unfortunately, too many of our residents – particularly those in low-income areas – are not graduating high school on time – if at all. One out of every 10 high school students in the Richmond and Petersburg region did not graduate on time. We can do better. We must do better.

### BY THE NUMBERS

#### KEY INDICATOR

##### REGIONAL ON-TIME HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE (2016)



Source: Virginia Department of Education

#### RELATED INDICATOR

##### CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

K-12 STUDENTS MISSING MORE THAN 10% OF THE SCHOOL YEAR



Attendance is a critical indicator of school success and engagement. Access to grade-by-grade attendance data will allow us to more accurately track progress toward grade-specific milestones, including high school graduation.

Source: Virginia Department of Education

#### RELATED INDICATOR

##### HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT RATE (2015-16)



Of students who entered ninth grade in 2013, 5.9% (791 students) dropped out before graduating four years later.

Source: Virginia Department of Education

#### RELATED INDICATOR

##### JUVENILE CRIME (2015-16)



Down from 30.1 arrests in 2013.



## WHAT WE DO

United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg funds programs that provide critical support to students as they approach graduation. We also work with school districts and community organizations to ensure we are doing everything possible to keep students in school and on track to graduate.

## SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS

United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg is proud to support the following organizations:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Communities in Schools of Richmond – Performance Learning Center
- Goodwill of Central and Coastal Virginia
- Petersburg Health Department



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**Donate.** Give to United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg. Let us know you want your gift to help increase on-time high school graduation.

**Volunteer.** Want to lend your time to supporting these efforts? Email [volunteer@yourunitedway.org](mailto:volunteer@yourunitedway.org) and we will help match you with the right opportunity.

[yourunitedway.org](http://yourunitedway.org)



United Way of Greater  
Richmond & Petersburg