Community Information Sharing System

Did you know … nearly 10% of children under the age of 17 live in poverty in Olmsted County?

That’s why … United Way of Olmsted County is committed to providing the most efficient and effective ways for families to access and use needed programs and services.

Which means … When our non-profit partners and faith communities are able to work smarter and use technology to better serve community members in need we can help stabilize families in crisis. We all win when a child succeeds in school, when families are financially stable and when people have good health.

Technology connects people with resources to improve lives more efficiently.

United Way of Olmsted County is in the forefront of ensuring Olmsted County is a national leader in human service access by championing and leading the effort for a community information sharing system (CISS) for human and social services. Today in Olmsted County, non-profit agencies each acquire and maintain their own information systems. This practice leads to many difficulties including using limited resources inefficiently with diverse technology systems, double dipping by clients due to lack of community wide communication, redundant information, and excessive intake time for organizations and clients.

The use of CISS allows for reduced intake time for agencies and participants, reduced information technology expenses, increased time for direct delivery of services, higher quality referrals, and achieving greater community impact through information sharing. Barcode technology with the Olmsted Connect swipe card for secure and fast service will reduce the time and cost for non profits and the faith community. IBM has been a major partner in introducing the new swipe card.