**Amount requested:** $200,000 Total project cost: $611,652

**Address of proposed project:** 1001 West Saratoga Street, Baltimore, MD 21223

**Brief Project Description:**

United Way is proposing building a new Family Center at Excel Academy in Southwest Baltimore to provide childcare and parenting support to student-parents enrolled at Excel Academy and surrounding high schools. The Family Center will provide an on-site early childhood education program for up to 18 infants and toddlers, after-school childcare, parenting training and support, academic support and other targeted services aimed at keeping student-parents in school and on track to graduation. The Family Center will be modeled after United Way's award-winning, nationally recognized Family Center at Benjamin Franklin High School in South Baltimore. The Family Center at Benjamin Franklin High School has served 83 student-parents and 65 infants and toddlers since it opened in 2014 and achieved a graduation rate of 74%.

The new Family Center will be located on-site at Excel Academy in a 2,100 square foot space on the first floor of the building. Baltimore City Public Schools has agreed to give United Way access to the space to use as a Family Center and Plano-Coudon has provided a construction estimate. We plan to start construction in early 2020 with a goal of completing construction in time to enroll students at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.