



United Way
of Rock River Valley

MOVE THE MIDDLE

DOMINIC'S STORY

Off track in middle school → high school dropouts
→ increased community crime, poverty, and unemployment

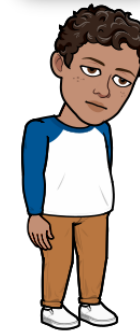
Move the Middle is United Way's bold initiative ensuring every middle schooler is on track to graduate.

Learn more at unitedwayrrv.org/movethemiddle

This is Dominic. He's a seventh grader at Lincoln Middle School but he's absent a lot. Dominic is beginning to slip through the cracks, and if he doesn't get help, his chance of graduating from high school on time falls to 25 percent.



Dominic is not alone. 75 percent of Lincoln seventh graders have missed 10 percent or more of classes so far this school year.



Here's Seventh Grade Achievement Advocate Britney. She discovers that Dominic is struggling with anxiety related to speaking in front of classmates and self-consciousness about saying the wrong answers.



Middle school is a complex time associated with a decline in academic achievement, motivation and self-perception. Students are having an even more difficult time due to the pandemic.

Britney meets with Dominic one-on-one, connects with his teachers, and helps provide him with counseling and extra support. She continues to monitor his progress as he moves from "high danger of dropping out" to "on track to successfully enter ninth grade."



Since popping up on Britney's radar and attending six Rosecrance group sessions that she connected him with, Dominic's attendance has increased from 78 percent in February to 84 percent in April.

For Dominic, Move the Middle is making all the difference.