

# By the Way,

 a newsletter for long-time friends of United Way

Spring 2015

## MEET THIS YEAR'S UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN CHAIR



*2015 United Way Campaign Chair Jason Horn and his wife, Tara, have two children. The Horn family loves to read, travel, watch movies, and eat peanut butter cups. Jason is happy to include his family in his Campaign efforts and to show his children the impact of giving back to the community at an early age.*

Jason Horn is serving as the 2015 United Way Campaign Chair, and he is dedicated to leading volunteers and the community toward this year's goal.

Jason said, "I know what this community's needs look like, and I know that United Way and the Partner Agencies help improve lives right here in our neighborhoods."

He grew up in St. Joseph and attended Bessie Ellison, Bode, and Central High School. He later served in the United States Air Force for four years, including in the Gulf War. He is a Missouri Western State University graduate and currently serves in the Missouri Air National Guard. He is the Vice-President and Trust Officer at Hannibal National Bank and owns Norty's Bar & Grill.

Selected as the Campaign Chair because of his passion for service, Jason leads by example, igniting the passion in others.

"I'm proud of this community, and I'm inspired by the generosity of those who live here when it comes to meeting needs, improving local lives, and improving this community," Jason said.

He has been an active supporter of United Way for many years, serving as a volunteer for the Allocations process, Audit Committee, Building Committee, Finance Committee, Video Sub-committee, Community Investment Council, Compliance Committee, and Campaign Advisory.

Jason is hoping others will join him in learning more about services and programs in the area. He is working with volunteers to develop a strong Campaign Cabinet and is looking forward to what this year has in store for the whole team.

He said he's already proud of the hundreds of volunteers for all of their hard work on this year's Campaign. ♦

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**May-Aug.**-United Way Reading Adventure. Volunteers read to school-aged children enrolled in summer childcare.

**June 10**-Taste of United Way focused on Pony Express Council, Boy Scouts of America. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

**July 8**-Taste of United Way focused on Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Inc. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

**Aug. 7-8**-United Way STUFF THE BUS! at both St. Joseph Walmart locations.

**Aug. 12**-Taste of United Way focused on St. Joseph Safety and Health Council. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

**Sept. 3**-United Way Campaign Kickoff at East Hills Shopping Center, 7:15-8:15 a.m. Fee for breakfast. RSVP.

**Sept. 9**-Taste of United Way focused on Northwest Missouri Community Services. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

**Sept. 24**-1<sup>st</sup> United Way Campaign Report at Our Lady of Guadalupe. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

**Sept. 26**-Junior League of St. Joseph's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Pony Express Run to benefit United Way of Greater St. Joseph. 5K walk/run and half marathon begin at 8 a.m. Kids' Fun Run begins at 9 a.m.

**Oct. 14**-Taste of United Way focused on Community Missions Corporation. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

**Oct. 31**-2<sup>nd</sup> United Way Campaign Progress Report during half-time at afternoon Missouri Western State University home football game.

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# SAVE MONEY ON PRESCRIPTIONS

Prescription costs, whether one-time or long-term, can be difficult to budget for many households, so United Way is pleased to offer a free prescription discount card that has been saving people in the region money since 2007.

The United Way FamilyWize prescription discount card can be used as often as needed by anyone for any qualifying prescription; it is like a reusable coupon for many different prescriptions.

Last year, people in the area saved \$207,925, or an average 40% discount for each of the 10,377 prescriptions claimed with the card.

The card has no income limits or age requirements and requires no registration.

To receive the discounted prescription price for any FDA approved medication, the card should be presented at a participating pharmacy. Those with prescription insurance can present their insurance card and the United Way FamilyWize prescription discount card at the pharmacy to determine which will offer the most savings.

To find a list of participating pharmacies, visit [familywize.org](http://familywize.org) and click on "Pharmacy Lookup."

To obtain a card, please call 364-2381, stop by the United Way office at 118 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street during office hours, or email [kylee.strough@stjosephunitedway.org](mailto:kylee.strough@stjosephunitedway.org).

Since the card's 2007 debut through FamilyWize, 70,397 regional claims have been made for total area household savings of \$1,196,629. United Way began sharing the card in 2009.

United Way is committed to improving lives through a focus on education, health, and financial stability.

"We're glad to be able to offer such a simple and accessible tool that can help with the financial stability and health of local people," said Kylee Strough, President of United Way. ♦



## TASTE UNITED WAY THROUGHOUT 2015

You are invited to attend upcoming 2015 Taste of United Way sessions, formerly known as Lunching and Learning with United Way Partner Agencies.

Each month, a United Way Partner Agency hosts a noon-time session aimed at educating the community on the work conducted and services provided by that agency. Brief presentations are made, and agency tours are available. A light lunch is provided free of charge.

The following United Way Partner Agencies will host upcoming sessions for 2015: Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Inc.; Community Missions Corporation; Family Guidance Center; Northwest Missouri Community Services; Pony Express Council, Boy Scouts of America; St. Joseph Safety and Health Council; and the YWCA. Please refer to "Mark Your Calendar" on the front page of this newsletter for dates.

The following agencies have already hosted Taste of United Way sessions this year: Bartlett Center, Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, The Salvation Army, United Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Missouri and the YMCA.

While the events are free, reservations are required due to space limitations. To reserve your place and to learn locations, please contact Glenda at 364-2381 or [glenda.hamilton@stjosephunitedway.org](mailto:glenda.hamilton@stjosephunitedway.org). ♦

## VOLUNTEER WITH UNITED WAY THIS SUMMER



### READ TO CHILDREN

United Way Reading Adventure needs volunteers to read to elementary-aged children May through Aug. Time commitment: 1-10 hours. Contact Jodi at 364-2381.



### COLLECT SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Volunteer to collect school supplies for area children through United Way STUFF THE BUS! on Aug. 7 or 8 at either St. Joseph Walmart location. Call Jay at 364-2381.

## Common Ground Offered for Retirees and Volunteers

Two United Way Common Ground sessions are currently slated for 2015.

This series is designed to educate specific groups within our community about the work taking place at United Way and the United Way Partner Agencies. Topics vary, but emphasis is placed on the United Way focus areas of education, health, and financial stability—subjects that affect us all.

Retirees are invited to the session scheduled for Tues., June 16. Volunteers are invited to the session scheduled for Tues., July 28. Each session begins at 8 a.m. at the United Way office, 118 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

While a continental breakfast will be provided free of charge at both sessions, reservations are required due to space limitations.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact Glenda at 364-2381 or [glenda.hamilton@stjosephunitedway.org](mailto:glenda.hamilton@stjosephunitedway.org). ♦

# 2015 UNITED WAY LEADERSHIP ST. JOSEPH CLASS HONES LOCAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

United Way Leadership St. Joseph has been guiding the 27 members of the 2015 class to build their skills for effective community leadership.

After the two-day opening retreat in January, the class has met monthly to learn about the community's opportunities and challenges.

The February program focused on "Telling Your Story." The class toured two different United Way Partner Agencies and heard the story of their resources and programs. The class also learned personal and professional story-crafting ideas from Will Stuck.

In March, the class continued to learn leadership skills and heard from representatives of seven different United Way Partner Agencies.

In April, the class learned about conflict resolution strategies from Dan Nowalk and participated in a poverty simulation.

The group will continue to meet monthly until graduation in December.

The following people make up this year's class: LaRae Bird, *Nestle Purina Petcare*; Tiffany Burnes, *Junior League of St. Joseph*; Brad Campbell, *Commerce Bank*; Nikki Conroy, *Altec Industries*; Beth Conway, *St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau*; Bryan Cook, *KCP&L*; Michelle Fagerstone, *Second Harvest Community Food Bank*; Sam Ghattasheh, *US Bank*; David Grable, *Hillyard Industries, Inc.*; Tyler Hardie, *Altec Industries*; Jordan Hiatt, *Nestle Purina Petcare*; John Hickman, *MyGrid Labs*; Stacy Holmes, *BMO Harris Bank*; Tara Hushbeck, *Nestle Purina Petcare*; Jessica Jackson, *St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce*; Beth Keaveny, *CliftonLarsonAllen LLP*; Linda Koelling, *Mosaic Life Care*; Bob Mallett, *KCP&L*; Keith McDaniel, *American Family Insurance*; Travis Perkins, *Candlewood Suites Saint Joseph*; Mark Sander, *Johnson Controls, Inc.*; Jeff Smith, *Commerce Bank*; Aaron Sorensen, *Johnson Controls, Inc.*; Jennie Stewart, *US Bank*; Jody Stewart, *Cintas*; Stephanie Sutton, *Mosaic Life Care*; Michael Venenga, *Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica*.

United Way Leadership St. Joseph has helped develop leaders in our community since 1982.

Anyone interested in joining the 2016 class can learn more by visiting the Leadership St. Joseph page at [stjosephunitedway.org](http://stjosephunitedway.org) or by contacting Ann at United Way, 364-2381. ♦



*The 2015 United Way Leadership St. Joseph class poses here during a learning activity.*

## ... (cont'd) MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Nov. 5-**United Way Campaign Victory Dinner at Missouri Western Fulkerson Center. 6-8:15 p.m. Fee for dinner. RSVP.

**Nov. 11-**Taste of United Way focused on the YWCA. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

**Dec. 16-**Taste of United Way focused on Family Guidance Center. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

\*Watch for more events on our calendar: [stjosephunitedway.org](http://stjosephunitedway.org)

\*All RSVPs can be made to 364-3281 during office hours. ♦

## ANNUAL THANK-A-THON IS SPRINGTIME TRADITION

Each spring, United Way Board Members launch a week-long calling campaign to reach out and personally thank United Way leadership donors.

In line with the solid tradition, between March 16 and March 26, this year's 32-member Board called leadership donors to extend appreciation for their generous support.

Contributions of Crystal Circle members comprise nearly 30% of the annual United Way Campaign. Individuals or couples whose combined gifts total \$1,000 or more annually qualify for membership in the Crystal Circle.

For more information about becoming a member of the Crystal Circle, contact Glenda Hamilton at 364-2381. ♦

# UNITED WAY KINDERGARTEN JUMPSTART TO PREPARE FAMILIES FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS OVER THE SUMMER



The St. Joseph Public Library and Rolling Hills Consolidated Library providespace for the United Way Kindergarten Jumpstart classes to meet. Teachers volunteer their time to lead the classes.

According to the recent kindergarten entry assessments, fewer than half of incoming St. Joseph kindergarteners exhibit skills expected of a 5-year old.

Many children who start kindergarten behind struggle in school and may never catch up. United Way Kindergarten Jumpstart, a program of United Way Success By 6®, helps children identified in needing kindergarten preparation to build skills and confidence before the school year begins.

United Way Kindergarten Jumpstart consists of four classes held on a weekly basis in the summer months. Classes will be led by skilled early educators and will focus on helping parents teach their children critical kindergarten preparation skills in the weeks leading up to the first day of school. All participants will be given resources necessary to work on skill development at home, including a collection of age appropriate books. ♦



## YES, I'D LIKE TO GIVE A TRIBUTE GIFT

*If you would like to celebrate the life of a family member or special friend through a memorial gift/ honorarium to the United Way Endowment Fund, please complete this form and send it to Glenda Hamilton at United Way of Greater St. Joseph, P.O. Box 188, St. Joseph, MO 64502. Your gift will improve lives in our community.*

## TRIBUTE GIFTS

**REMEMBER THE PAST. HONOR THE PRESENT.  
TOUCH THE FUTURE.**

*The following Tribute Gifts have been gratefully received by United Way of Greater St. Joseph:*

***In Honor of John and Trudy Wilgers-***  
Harlan and Linda Henke

Tribute gifts are a unique way of supporting United Way while recognizing the special people in your life. Tribute gifts may be given any time of year in memory of a loved one or in honor of a friend, colleague, or family member.

This time of year when weddings, anniversaries, and graduations fill our calendars, we are reminded that these are especially appropriate times to recognize those who mean so much to us.

To make a tribute gift to United Way of Greater St. Joseph, complete the adjacent form and return to the United Way office.

Enclosed is my tribute gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Commemorating \_\_\_\_\_  
*(please indicate the birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion)*

Please send acknowledgement to \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

*The person you are honoring, or the family of the person you are remembering, will be promptly notified of your gift without mentioning the amount. Your gift may also be listed in a United Way publication unless you indicate here that you wish to remain anonymous.*

Please do not list my name.

**Please make your check payable to United Way of Greater St. Joseph.  
Contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you!**

**EVENTS FOR YOU TO LEARN  
MORE, p. 2.**