

Welcome New 2008 Crystal Circle Members

Dennis and Mary Beth Alpers
Alex and Deborah Blachar
Jeremy and Darcee Blanchard
Brent Bliss
Mark and Laura Bodicky
Brian and Lisa Brennaman, MD
Steve Brooks
Brett Carolus
Matthew and Vikki Dority
Alan and Lauri Franks
Dan and Fran Hegeman
Michelle Hensley
Don and Sharaon Hinderks
Mark and DeeAnn Howell
Mike Hurst
Jerry and Elaine Ingle
David B. Johnson
David Jones
Bill and Nancy Junk

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Success By 6® Play Path at Bartlett Park Fosters Early Learning

Thanks to donor and community support, Success By 6, an initiative of the United Way of Greater St. Joseph, has completed a play path for young children.

The Success By 6 Play Path is a series of activity stations that guide adults who bring young children to the park to use the natural environment to support early learning. The Play Path is located on the hike and bike trail that borders Bartlett Park to the east. Signs suggesting fun developmental tips are posted with accompanying activities on or near the path.

United Way volunteers partnered with incoming Missouri Western State University freshmen to install the path for our community's children.



We hope you bring a young child you know to the Play Path. Follow the tips to guide your little person in fun outdoor activities that help with learning letters, shapes, and numbers in ways that develop coordination and listening skills. Know that you made the Play Path possible! ♦



United Way of Greater St. Joseph

By the Way,

 a newsletter for long-time friends of United Way

Spring 2009

United Way launches new financial stability initiative for community

The United Way has launched a new initiative to address financial stability issues in our community. A Financial Stability Summit was held on April 2 to determine what specific economic and financial needs are the most pressing for people in the Greater St. Joseph area and to discuss potential strategies to address those needs.

The April 2 Summit was the birth of a new local movement that will help the St. Joseph area better assure the financial stability of the people who live here for years to come.

Social services provide assistance to help people facing financial problems, but social services cannot tackle all the economic concerns people face. Therefore, the Financial Stability Summit, coordinated by United Way, brought local leaders from all sectors together for the sake of the financial well-being of individuals and families. Thirty-one leaders from the banking industry, private businesses, government agencies and the non-profit sector attended.

The initiative will first focus on:

- Impacting Regulations and Policies
- Increasing use of Earned Income

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Meet a 51-Year Contributor

“My father was a charitable man, so I guess that’s where I learned it,”

remarked Marvin Nelson, a Loyal Contributor to the United Way of Greater St. Joseph.

Marvin’s history with United Way began 51 years ago as an employee of a family-owned business, The Home Oil & Gas Corporation. Even when he became president of the company, he served



Marvin Nelson believes in contributing to the work of the United Way.

as campaign coordinator for his employees. He also encouraged other businesses to contribute corporate gifts to the annual campaigns and served on the United Way Board of Directors during the 1970’s. Marvin believes one of the most important roles of the United Way is that it unites efforts throughout the community by engaging a great number of volunteers to raise money for the partner agencies.

We salute Marvin for his faithful commitment to his community through the United Way. ♦

United Way begins developing a Volunteer Center

United Way of Greater St. Joseph is developing a local Volunteer Center. The first Volunteer Center Advisory Committee meeting on May 4 was attended by representatives of non-profit agencies, educational institutions, and corporations.

Volunteer positions serve an important function in a community, especially during an economic downturn. Through volunteering, individuals can expand their networks for job searches and increase their job skills. Non-profit agencies often depend on volunteers for important labor and special projects that cannot be covered by budgets. Currently, when someone in our community wishes to volunteer somewhere, the person must call around to inquire at many different locations, asking about their volunteer needs, often in a hit-and-miss fashion. Many agencies in town have volunteer opportunities or would like to have leadership in developing a volunteer program but don’t have the staff or the time required.

United Way’s Volunteer Center will serve as a community resource for

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United Way
of Greater St. Joseph



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See some big 2008 results made possible with your contributions

Health

- 856 seniors in the area received a total of 122,802 balanced meals for good health through United Way partner agencies.
- 222 women enhanced their safety and quality of life through rape crisis therapies at the YWCA.

Education

- 1,436 children attended quality preschools and child care centers at United Way partner agencies.
- 5,378 girls and boys built character, leadership, and other important skills as Scouts.

- 7,846 people feel prepared to respond to a first aid or CPR emergency with knowledge and confidence due to American Red Cross training.

Financial Stability

- Around 11,000 referrals to appropriate resources were given by Community Services to people seeking assistance with financial situations.
- Approximately 1,700 men, women and children received emergency shelter. ♦

... (cont'd) Ensure Financial Stability

Tax Credit and free tax preparation

- Increasing capacity of case managers and creating an effective visual resource that helps people navigate through social service agencies
- Promoting personal financial education

Developing a plan for achieving each goal is next on the agenda.

If you are interested in participating in this forward-thinking, worthwhile work, please contact the United Way at 364-2381 and ask for Jodi. ♦



As part of his day with UCP's Adult Services, a man who receives services at UCP delivers Mobile Meals to an InterServ client.

People Served Help Others Thanks to Cooperation Between Two Local United Way Agencies

Did you know that United Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Missouri (UCP) and InterServ, two United Way partner agencies, have been teaming up for over 15 years to enable people who are receiving services to give back to our community?

This past year, UCP staff worked with twenty-five adults with developmental disabilities served by UCP's Adult Program as they took turns on a rotating schedule delivering Mobile Meals through InterServ. They delivered nine routes, which means nearly 140 people who might not otherwise have eaten well, had hot meals delivered to their doors.

Not only are recipients' nutritional needs met through the Mobile Meals program, but sometimes their meal delivery is the only interaction they have for the day. UCP adult participants and some of the long-term InterServ meal patrons enjoy a short visit during the meal delivery, benefitting both the deliverer and the person who receives the meal. This partnership is a win-win situation for participating UCP adults, people confined to their residence due to disability or illness who depend on InterServ for regular nutrition, United Way and our community as a whole.

United Way encourages our community and agencies to LIVE UNITED, and the photo above shows an excellent example of how individuals and agencies in our community are doing just that. Hooray to UCP and InterServ for such a long-term commitment to advance the common good in our community.

For more information about UCP and InterServ, go to www.ucpnwmo.org and www.inter-serv.org. ♦

... (cont'd) Welcome New 2008 Crystal Circle Members

- Joe and Linda Ketcherside
- Scott and Marina Koelliker
- Mike and Linda Kozminski
- David and Terri Kropf
- Al and Gracie Landes
- Carrie and Rick Lipira
- Dr. David Lowry and Dr. Jennifer Hall
- Michael and Mary Malone
- Maureen Boyle and Mike Manganaro
- Michelle and Todd W. Meierhoffer
- Vern and Darlene Middleton
- Gary and Sally Myers
- Ronald and Linda Patterson
- Valyne Pochop
- Mike and Sharon Portman
- Kevin and Karen Price
- Joyce Rochambeau
- Juston Robert Sander
- Kevin and Laura Smith
- Dan and Jennie Sommers
- Conrad and Amy Spaeth
- Gregory and Jennie Starkel
- Tom and Cristina Tewell
- Robert F. Tobin, MD, and Susan Squires
- Barbara and Edward Vanyo
- Mike and Cynde Veale
- Kevin and Tama Wagner
- Robbie and Ric Watson
- Mike and Cathie Wayman
- Tim and Kim Weddle
- Brad and Lisa Weil
- Jay and Lynette Wheeler
- Marlie and Travis Williams
- Chuck and Bobbie Zimmerman

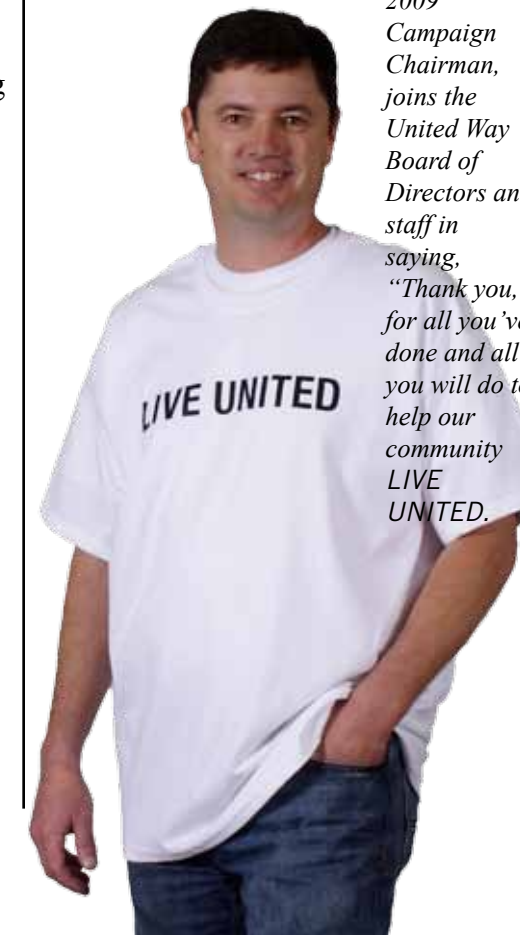
Crystal Circle Members give \$1,000 or more to the United Way Annual Campaign.

Thank you for supporting United Way of Greater St. Joseph.

... (cont'd) Volunteer Center individuals seeking volunteer opportunities, agencies seeking volunteers and corporations supporting volunteer projects for their employees. The center will become the central place to discover what volunteer opportunities are available in the area. As the Volunteer Center develops, it will be accessible by phone, through the internet, and by visiting the United Way. It will be an effective way for agencies and individuals to find solid volunteer matches.

The Volunteer Center will also provide centralized leadership and management to promote, support and enhance the efforts of individual volunteer coordinators at various agencies. The center will ease the burden on agencies as they seek to find, train and maintain volunteers.

Want to volunteer? Have volunteer needs? Call Linda at 364-2381. ♦



Bill Severn, 2009 Campaign Chairman, joins the United Way Board of Directors and staff in saying, "Thank you," for all you've done and all you will do to help our community LIVE UNITED.

If you've been giving to United Way since before computers were used to track information, we may not know how long you've given. Our records are not complete for long-term donors.

Are you a Diamond Donor?

You are if you've given to United Way for more than 25 years. We want to recognize you, thank you, and make sure you know how important you are to us. Give us a call at 364-2381 or complete this form and return it to United Way of Greater St. Joseph at P.O. Box 188, St. Joseph, MO 64502.

◆ I have been giving to United Way since _____ (year)

Name(s) _____

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