

Welcome New 2009 Crystal Circle Members

- Dr. Marghoob Abbas
- Dr. Robert and Tammy Bergland
- Dan and Joni Bestgen
- Brian and Francie Bradley
- Tom and Marcy Burke
- Chaney and Beth Cathcart
- Frank and Kathy DiMaggio
- Bill and Karen Dittmore
- Mike and Susie Gallagher
- Family
- Ron and Cosette Hardwick
- Brett and Aimee Hausman
- James and Luellen Hooper
- Dr. Sibyl and James Jura
- Sharon Kennedy
- Kyle and Jennifer Koch
- Dr. and Mrs. Mark Laney
- Mark and Karen Lewis
- Randy and Tresa Marshall

... continued on page 3

Meet Todd Meierhoffer, 2nd Generation Campaign Chair

You may remember 24 years ago when Michael Meierhoffer was volunteering diligently to secure contributions for the 1986 United Way Campaign. Today, his son, Todd, is following in his father's footsteps.

Todd has been involved with United Way of Greater St. Joseph as a volunteer for over 11 years. Todd's challenge is slightly larger than his father's—his efforts will raise over \$3.3 million dollars for United Way funded programs and services.

Todd has a long history of community involvement, not only with United Way, but with many other organizations as well: YMCA, St. Joseph School District Foundation, Boy Scouts, Family Guidance Center and Downtown Rotary Club 32.

Todd said, "I agreed to become campaign chair because I believe in United



Todd W. Meierhoffer, Vice-President at Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory—2010 Campaign Chair.

... continued on page 3

United Way of Greater St. Joseph

By the Way,

 a newsletter for long-time friends of United Way

Summer 2010

Businesses and Education Succeed Together

In October 2009, United Way's Profit In Education® Initiative launched the pilot program BEST (Business and Education Succeed Together) at Lafayette High School. BEST has brought businesses and Lafayette High School freshmen together through company presentations and tours.

... continued on page 2

28 New LSJ Participants Grow During 28th Year of Program

United Way's Leadership St. Joseph builds community leadership skills through a 12-month program of team building, leadership skill development, community issue education and project development.

The 28th class of Leadership St. Joseph consists of a full class of 28 community members. Participants come from a diverse mix of small and large businesses as well as non-profit organizations.

2010 class members are: Bradley Anderson of Nestle Purina PetCare, Mark Baltzer of Barlett & West, Carol Barnett of Nodaway Valley Bank, Shirley Blakeney, Brett Carolus of Hillyard Industries, Heidi Casey of Sara Lee, John Dickmeyer of Altec Industries, Lisa Driskel-Hawxby of Community Action Partnership, Nicole Fox of

... continued on page 3

Jane Urquhart has LIVED UNITED!

Back in 1946, Jane Urquhart's first volunteer opportunity was the "Dollar at the Door" campaign for United Way (then known as Community Chest). Following the end of World War II, Jane was among the many young war brides to return to the St. Joseph community. At that time, most husbands made their Community Chest (United Way)



Volunteer, Agency Director, Board Member—Mrs. Urquhart has filled many important roles with United Way and United Way Partner Agencies over the years.

contributions through work places, while she, along with others, went door to door to collect donations from wives, mothers, and senior citizens who remained at home.

In addition to volunteering for United Way, Jane was the Director for the Mental Health Association, at that time a United Way agency. Education and referrals were provided, but no services.

Jane also served on the Board of Directors for InterServ (another United Way Partner Agency) when the Wesley Senior Towers at 10th and Francis was constructed. She says Wesley Towers was the first-of-a-kind facility in St. Joseph to meet the growing needs of the senior adult population.

Jane fondly recalls that her family benefitted

from the programs provided by United Way agencies. Her children participated in swim classes and city-wide basketball leagues sponsored by the YMCA. Her grandson underwent successful heart surgery at the age of 4 at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

Jane is an excellent example of someone who has LIVED UNITED! ♦

Dates to Remember

- Eat. Drink. LIVE UNITED-July 13, Aug. 19, Sept. 30. Restaurants to be announced.
- United Way Night at the Mustangs-to be determined
- Campaign Kick Off Breakfast-Sept. 2 at Ramada Inn
- 1st Campaign Report Luncheon-Sept. 23 at Boy Scouts' Camp Geiger
- 2nd Campaign Report Luncheon-Oct. 14 at Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Campaign Victory Dinner-Nov. 4 at MWSU Fulkerson Center

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St. Joseph, MO 64502



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... (cont'd) BEST helps students



The goal of the program is to have students learn about local businesses, the different jobs available, and about the training and education required for those positions. An emphasis was placed on the importance of further education and training beyond a high school diploma.

The business partners are Hill-yard Companies, Altec Industries, Heartland Health, Missouri Air National Guard, St. Joseph Police Department, Boehringer Ingelheim, and the Institute for Industrial and Applied Life Sciences.

At a celebration for BEST held on May 4, students said they learned about local companies and careers they didn't know existed. ♦

... (cont'd) Meierhoffer 2010 Chair Way, feel that all Partner Agencies and United Way Initiatives are crucial to our community. Their work will continue to make St. Joseph a better place to live and raise a family!"

Todd and his wife, Michele, recently welcomed their first child into their family. Who knows? If little Walter Meierhoffer III follows in his father's and grandfather's steps, he may be a 3rd generation campaign chair as we near the mid-century. ♦

Your support of United Way impacted lives

As you likely know, United Way focuses on education, financial stability, and health because these are the building blocks for a good life. In 2009, campaign dollars were allocated to 18 Partner Agencies, 7 United Way Initiatives/Programs, and many other local programs. Below is a highlight of a few recent achievements made possible through your support.

Education

- 1,494 children attended preschools and child care at United Way Partner Agencies.

- 229 children with disabilities or delays received early intervention services to help them reach developmental goals.

- 800 young children benefited from 21 child care centers that participated in a United Way program to improve quality of service and to best prepare children for success.

- 1,008 high school students participated in alcohol crash simulations to learn about the dangers of drinking and driving.

- 8,000 people increased their knowledge of disaster preparedness through disaster education presentations.

Financial Stability

- 1,234 men, women, and children received emergency shelter.

- Local people kept \$340,000 from being taken from them through

consumer law legal representation.

- 92% of the 702 people who received financial budget counseling were successful in creating budgets to help get them through a financial crisis.

- Volunteers prepared taxes for 2,227 people, resulting in \$1,523,352 in tax refunds.

- 13,641 referrals to appropriate resources were given to people seeking assistance with financial situations.

Health

- 1,136 patients received mental health counseling through United Way Partner Agencies.

- 97% of the 257 seniors who received in-home and medical services and support avoided premature nursing home placement.

- In our community, where over 25% of the population is obese, 5,647 people participated in vigorous activity for 45 minutes or more, 3 times per week.

- Through a United Way grant, 339 diabetic patients were provided with glucose testing strips to help them monitor their blood sugar and maintain their overall health to prevent hospitalizations and costly emergency room visits.

- 223 women enhanced their safety and quality of life after violence through crisis therapies and the support of an advocate. ♦

Did you know? In 2009 . . .

- 709 people VOLUNTEERED with United Way.

- 122 volunteers determined distribution of \$3.32 million to 18 local United Way Partner Agencies and 7 United Way Initiatives/Programs.

- Thanks to the generosity of hard-working volunteers and to wise operational practices, over 91 cents of every dollar contributed to United Way went straight into programs that impact people in need.

... (cont'd) Welcome New 2009
Crystal Circle Members

Kim McManus and Jason Morgan
Katherine and Tom Miller
Todd and Jacqueline Miller
Michael and Deli Murphy
Terry and Robert Pritchett
Michael and Sheri Pulido
John and Brenda Rever
John and Elizabeth Riordan
Matt and Jill Robertson
Pat and Amy Ryan
Sally Schwab

Don and Mary Sedlacek
Terry and Marlene Seiter
Audrey and Paul Shandley
Steve and Elaine Smith
Chuck and Helen Spoonemore
Vernon and Jeannie Stanton
Dennis and Karen Steeby
James and Becky Stoupe
Jack E. Teegarden
Gloria and Dean Thomas
Marty and Connie Thornton
Bruce and Becky Trahan
Kelvin and Susan Underwood
Robert and Laurel Vartabedian
David and Stephanie Wegenka
Anne and Robert Wilson
Seth and Emmy Wright
Julie Wyttenbach
Dr. Shawn and Lisa Zeltwanger

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) LSJ Update

Nestle-Purina PetCare, Michelle Hensley of Heartland Health, Emily Hilsabeck of Clifton Gunderson, Mark Howell of Kansas City Power & Light, Anil Joshi of Sara Lee, Tana McClanahan of St. Joseph Police Department, Susan McGarry of Missouri Air National Guard, Paulette Million of American Family Insurance, Gail Orstad of Junior League of St. Joseph, Jennifer Osborn of Buchanan County Public

Administrator's Office, Lori Prussman of St. Joseph PTA Council, Mike Pyrtle of Northwest Health Services, Robin Rhodes, Anna Rosenberger, Amy Ryan of Commerce Bank, Regina Shelton of YWCA, Kasey Shipley of M & I Wealth Management, Cory Smith of Triumph Foods, Braden Srock of Altec Industries and Charles Tozer of Heartland Health. ♦



YES, I'd like to give a Tribute Gift

If you'd like learn more about celebrating the life of a family member or special friend through a memorial gift/honorarium to the United Way Endowment Fund. You may 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.

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!