

By The Way, a newsletter for long-time friends of United Way

Winter 2017

Generous Community Gave to United Way Campaign

The 2017 United Way Campaign officially concluded at Missouri Western's Fulkerson Center on Nov. 2.

Approximately 200 people celebrated the community's generosity for this year's annual fundraiser that helps 17 United Way Partner Agencies and seven United Way Initiatives provide important services to people in Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas every day.

As of Nov. 2, the community had pledged \$2,981,151.18 (98% of the goal) to the United Way Campaign. The campaign kicked off on Sept. 7 and aimed to raise \$3,031,000.

"While we reported what the community pledged at the celebration event, we are hopeful that more dollars will come as a result of some employee campaigns that are still wrapping up and some individual donors who have not yet had an opportunity to mail in their pledges," said Kylee Strough, President of United Way of Greater St. Joseph.

Ron Auxier, 2017 United Way Campaign Chair, said, "Our community continues to be generous, and it's pretty amazing how much good we can do when we pool our resources as the United Way Campaign allows us to do." He thanked everyone who contributed.

During the event donors and volunteers were recognized for their contributions to the campaign, and attendees were reminded how lives are improved every day through the funds secured during the annual campaign. ♦

Meet Your United Way Board Leadership

Did you know that the United Way Board of Directors are not paid, but rather, invest their time and leadership without compensation?

Board members are elected, in most circumstances, by donors at the United Way Annual Meeting.

Each year, this group of committed leaders oversees the activities and management of United Way of Greater St. Joseph that

operates by and for our community, independently of other agencies across the world that carry the United Way name. The group hires and oversees United Way President who hires and oversees staff.

The Board also monitors fiscal and administrative accountability of the agency and all organizations that receive United Way funds.

"Because United Way invests in the work of such a large network of services, substantial responsibility that affects all 17 United Way Partner Agencies rests on the shoulders of United Way Board members," said Debra Bradley, 2017 Board Chair.

Board members are generally elected for three-year terms, to serve for no more than two consecutive terms so that terms of one-third of the Board are set to end each year, allowing the Board to have a healthy mix of new and experienced members.

In order to fulfill its function this year, the Board has met as a whole every month except for January and July, according to Bradley.

In addition to Board meetings, each Board member is assigned to United Way committees that focus on particular aspects of United Way's work.

The Board begins its year at the Annual Meeting by electing officers. The chief leadership of the body, the Board Executive Committee, meet as necessary and is comprised of Board officers, the immediate past Chair, current Campaign Chair, and Community Investment Co-Chairs.

2017 Officers: Debra Bradley, Chair; Dennis N. Rosonke, Vice Chair; Mark

... continued on page 3



Some of the 32-member 2017 United Way of Greater St. Joseph Board of Directors posed for a photo after a meeting early this year.



Mark Your Calendar

Feb. 8-United Way Annual Meeting. Receive the 2017 Annual Report and usher in 2018 United Way Board leadership at Missouri Western Fulkerson Center, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost for lunch is \$15 per person. RSVP to 364-2381 during office hours or email kylee.strough@stjosephunitedway.org.

Watch for more events at stjosephunitedway.org



This spring, 164 volunteers participated in the United Way Allocations Process. Contact the United Way office if you'd like to be an allocations volunteer in the coming year.

Might You Help guide United Way Allocation Decisions?

United Way of Greater St. Joseph is asking people to volunteer for the annual allocations process.

Through the United Way Allocations Process, volunteers examine United Way Partner Agency programs, their community impact, operations, and finances before recommending how much money should be allocated to each agency the following year.

Recommendations are presented to the United Way Board of Directors for review and final approval.

The volunteers help ensure that donor dollars are used to achieve the greatest impact in the areas of education, health, and financial stability and that United Way of Greater St. Joseph is accountable to donors.

In the early months of 2018, volunteers will be assigned to subcommittees that review specific United Way Partner Agencies. Each volunteer will plan to dedicate a scheduled 10-15 hours before the United Way June Board meeting.

"The allocations process is eye opening, worthwhile, and an incredible opportunity," said volunteer and donor, Michelle Margulies. "Donors really should aim to volunteer at least one year if at all possible."

Those interested in volunteering in 2018 may contact Jodi Bloemker at the United Way office, 364-2381, or jodi.bloemker@stjosephunitedway.org. ♦

Taste United Way All Through the Year

You can taste United Way, a bite at a time, over lunch in 2018.

For the fourth year, United Way invites you to learn once a month over the noon hour about community services available through United Way Partner Agencies or work done through United Way Initiatives.

The series is an excellent way to:

- learn about how donor dollars are making a difference in local lives;
- understand how specific agencies and initiatives work for our community;
- learn about new programs or approaches in the United Way network;
- connect with staff who work in the United Way network of services;
- interact with other people who care about meeting and preventing human needs effectively.

"The lunch series really does provide a good taste of different work supported by United Way," said Walt Hanabury, United Way donor. "I like knowing that the dollars I give are being used in our community, and I've learned something new and important about how our community works together at every Taste of United Way I've gone to."

2018 Taste of United Way events will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at no cost to those who attend, 11:45 a.m. at United Way (118 S. 5th Street): Feb. 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

Featured topics are currently being scheduled. Please watch the United Way website or call the United Way office for the full schedule as it comes together.

Two hundred different people attended Taste of United Way, with an average of 44 people attending each lunch in 2017. ♦



Taste of United Way featured a different agency or United Way Initiative/Program each month this year. Here: guests learn about Northwest Missouri Community Services.

The United Way staff wishes you a HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Laren

Kristin

Jay

Bobbie

Jodi

Ann

Tammy

Renita

Kylee

Kim

2018

... (cont'd) **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Wyble, Secretary; Ann Hoy, Treasurer; and Kylee M. Strough, President.

2017 Division Chairs: Ron Auxier, Campaign; David Cripe, Community Initiatives; Michelle Margulies and Brandi Hoover, Community Investment; and Steve Johnston, Marketing/Communications.

2017 Members: Eric Bradley; Ben Byrd; George Clinton; Elaine Coder; Mike Doolan; Patti Eiman; Jan Glenn; Jason Grayson; Ron L. Hook; Renee Hurd; Roger Martin; Brad McNally; Scott Murphy; Michael Pulido; LaVell Rucker; Gia Scruggs; Brandt Shields; Gary Silvey; Adam Stein; Michele Thomason; Lisa E. Weil; Julie Woods; and Seth Wright. ♦

... (cont'd) **IDEAS FROM KYLEE**

5) Advocating: If your interest and skill set include inviting others to join you in giving to United Way, this is a great time to let us know.

6) Guiding how United Way directs dollars to Partner Agencies: (see *article*, page 2).

Any of our staff will be happy to help you learn more about these or other opportunities should you call 364-2381 or stop in to 118 South 5th Street during office hours, Mon. through Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

You are already an important piece of the good that United Way does. We'd love to meet you and help you LIVE UNITED in additional ways. The caring power of our community is inspiring and we're glad you're part of it. ♦



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 Attn: Kylee Strough, 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!**

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Thank you to all who GIVE to United Way. You help improve thousands of lives.

The following Tribute Gift has been gratefully received by United Way of Greater St. Joseph:

*In Memory of Larry Hausman-
Sherry Hausman*

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.

During this season of giving, many people consider year-end gifts to recognize those who mean much to them. To make a tribute gift to United Way of Greater St. Joseph, please complete the adjacent form and return it to the United Way office.

A Note to You from United Way

from Kylee Strough,
President



Your commitment to improving lives through United Way of Greater St. Joseph makes a difference every day to people in Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas. As you have given through the years, you have become part of important stability supporting United Way programs and Partner Agencies. Thank you.

Your history of giving shows that you care about our community and the people who live here. Please know that United Way is a resource that can also help you grow. Here are some possibilities:

1) Learning: understand more about the United Way network, its services, people, and needs by joining us for lunch at Taste of United Way, offered once a month (*see article, page 2*).

2) Volunteering: use the skills and time you have to volunteer in our community, whether it be through United Way, one of the 17 United Way Partner Agencies, or another local non-profit. Perhaps you could read with a child once or multiple times? Maybe you would like to deliver meals to a homebound senior? Perhaps you have carpentry, office, or other specific skills and the time to share your talents? Regardless, stay on top of local non-profit volunteer opportunities listed through United Way Volunteer Center at stjosephunitedway.org/volunteer-center. Please let us know if you have some other volunteer idea in mind.

3) Leading in the community: develop your own leadership skills specifically geared toward the needs and opportunities here. United Way Leadership St. Joseph trains 28 adults a year.

4) Leading as a volunteer with United Way: serve as a United Way Board member (*see article, page 1*), lead through United Way Success By 6®, or join in with United Way committees that guide our work.

... continued on page 3

RSVP for Annual Meeting.-front page

Thank you, Volunteers & Donors!