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**United Way
of Grundy County**



The United Way of Grundy County (UWGC) exceeded its 2008-09 campaign goal of \$405,000 by 7%. Only 32% of United Ways across the United States achieved increases during the past year's campaign, according to the Oct. 9 issue of the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*.

Kelli Walker, executive director of the United Way of Grundy County, comments: "This achievement is a true testament to the generosity of corporate leaders, individuals, and our neighbors in Grundy County. Our agencies are experiencing high demand for services, with fewer dollars to provide those services. We literally are funding 'lifelines' for people."

Walker continues: "The challenge, of course, is that a new fiscal year started Oct. 1 and we are charged with starting once again at zero and raising even more funds for our partner agencies. Every agency we fund has demonstrated both accountable outcomes and a real need for increased support. It is our mission to raise and allocate funds in the most efficient manner."

The UWGC announced a 2009-10 campaign goal of \$415,000. This is the largest goal in the 64 year history of UWGC. All funds raised support programs provided by agencies serving Grundy County residents. Of the approximately 42,000 residents of Grundy County, 26,400 of those residents used programs provided by United Way of Grundy County agencies in 2008.

The United Way of Grundy County also achieved certified membership status with the United Way Worldwide. The certification mandates completion of 13 requirements as well as verification of the status of 44 indicators that a United Way demonstrates the intent of the membership requirements, confirming that operations are transparent and meet or exceed United Way membership requirements.

The United Way of Grundy County focuses their resources on four areas of need in Grundy County:

1. Fulfilling basic human needs
2. Helping youth succeed
3. Increasing independence and self-sufficiency
4. Promoting individual and family health and wellness

Grundy County Partner Agencies

The United Way of Grundy County supports 29 not-for-profit partner agencies that provide services for our residents.

Fulfilling Urgent and Basic Human Needs

American Red Cross
Catholic Charities
Crisis Line of Will and Grundy Counties
Prairie State Legal Services
Salvation Army
We Care of Grundy County

Helping Youth Succeed

Aunt Martha's Youth Services, Inc.
Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Will and Grundy Counties
Boy Scouts (Rainbow Council)
Child Care Resource & Referral
Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana
University of IL Extension Grundy County Unit
Will County Children's Advocacy Center

Increasing Independence and Self-Sufficiency

Easter Seals Joliet Region
Illinois Valley Industries
Stepping Stones
United Cerebral Palsy of Illinois Prairieland
Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living

Promoting Individual and Family Health and Wellness

Breaking Away, Inc.
Breaking Free
Community Nutrition Network
Education Service Network Jump Start
Family Counseling of Trinity Services
Grundy Community Volunteer Hospice
Guardian Angel Community Services
Joliet Area Community Hospice
Morris Hospital and Healthcare Centers
Senior Services Center of Will County
Will/Grundy Medical Clinic

UWGC Board of Directors

Mike Carey, Standard Bank (President)
Chris Brown, Exelon (Vice President)
Caroline Portlock, Grundy County Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Treasurer)

John Almer, Grundy County Board (Secretary)
Megan Borchers, Rezin Orthopedics and Sports Medicine
Darrell Dolmage, LyondellBasell
Dan Duffy, Grundy County Administrator
Richard Gadbois, Exelon
Lon Lovellette, Coldwell Banker
Tawnya Mack, Echols, Mack & Associates
Randy Matravers, Grundy Bank
Paul Nordstrom, Kendall Grundy Regional Office of Education
Paula Pfeifer, Centru Bank
John Roundtree, Morris Hospital

About United Way

United Way is a global network of locally governed not-for-profit member organizations in 47 countries and territories whose members work to create long-term solutions to local human needs. These members convene community leaders who identify and prioritize local needs, generate and distribute resources for mission-centered work, help improve the effectiveness of the non-profit sector and enhance service delivery. This work happens primarily at the local level, where community needs and opportunities are best understood by local volunteer leaders.

About United Way of Grundy County

The mission of the United Way of Grundy County is to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities, through opportunities for giving, advocating, and volunteering. We rally support for local agencies that make an impact for local residents, thereby building a stronger community for all.

For more information about the United Way of Grundy County please call (815) 942-4430 or visit www.unitedwayofgrundycounty.com.

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