

GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

VOLUNTEER.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Dear Reader,

The 2008 United Way of Greater Stark County annual solicitation ended Dec. 12 with a shortfall. For those of you who pledged, your gift comes at a time when the needs in our community have never been more critical.

We are so grateful for your donation.



United Way's 2-1-1 Information and Referral hotline is ringing more often. More callers are asking United Way and emergency assistance providers for help to heat their homes and feed their loved ones. If ever there was a time for those in our community who are capable of giving more to do so--that time is now.

United Way's 2-1-1 Information & Referral hotline received a call this week regarding a man who was due to have his heat turned off. His family was desperately trying to find help. He had been in an accident and had some dementia issues. The daughter learned the heat was to be turned off the next day. 2-1-1 was able to obtain assistance for gas line repairs to keep the heat on.

United Way serves those among us who are living on the edge. The majority are working, providing for family, helping others until a catastrophe occurs and they fall below the line of poverty. We as Americans have always supported and cared for one another in times of crisis, we LIVE UNITED.

We are following up with individual donors and corporations these next few weeks to keep the dollars allocated to programs in Education, Family & Financial Stability and Health & Basic Needs at the same level as last year.

Please help United Way serve our neighbors here in Stark County. If you haven't already given or wish to increase this year's pledge please contact us at 330-491-0445 or donate online at www.uwstark.org.

Candy & Bill Wallace
2008 United Way Annual Campaign Chairs

NEWS & EVENTS

Family Volunteer Project: 3,859 Children's books collected in drive!



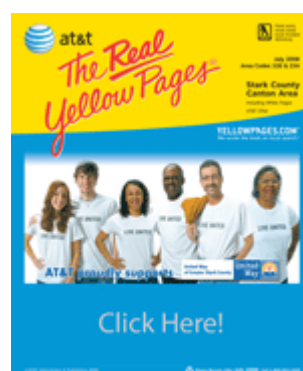
Donations of new or gently used children's books for the United Way Children's Book Drive in greater Stark County was a huge success with 3, 859 books collected. A Family Volunteer Project in collaboration with national Hands-On Network and The Walt Disney Foundation, the donated books will be distributed to Early Education & Care programs funded by United Way.

Thank you to all who donated, to the following collection sites and the United Way Student Leadership Team for helping with this project:

Central Catholic High School
Giant Eagle - Alliance
Massillon Chamber of Commerce
Perry High School
Sandy Valley High School
Second April Galerie
Stark County District Library

For more information about the book drive or family volunteerism, please contact Kimberly Douce, Director of United Way Volunteer Resources at 330-491-9985 or kdouce@uwgsc.org.

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