

## NEWS RELEASE

*For more information:*

Sarah Hayden  
330-491-0445  
sarah.hayden@uwstark.org



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **United Way, 2-1-1 Information & Referral receive grants totaling \$117,941**

*(Canton, OH) June 29, 2010* — United Way of Greater Stark County and United Way's 2-1-1 Information & Referral department will receive \$117,941 in grants from American Electric Power (AEP) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The grants will be used to support United Way initiatives and human need services through United Way's 2-1-1 Information & Referral help line.

AEP Ohio awarded United Way's 2-1-1 with a grant of \$26,216 to assist AEP customers with rent and mortgage payments. 2-1-1 will be partnering with Catholic Charities to help provide this service.

United Way's 2-1-1 has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for vehicle repairs for non-TANF eligible residents.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services also granted 2-1-1 an additional \$41,725, which will be used to fund a collaborative effort with ICAN Housing Solutions to enhance 2-1-1's online ReferNet information and referral database that residents will be able to access to search for emergency assistance information and especially homeless issues.

AEP Ohio awarded Stark County's United Way, one of 50 Ohio United Ways receiving AEP Ohio grants, \$25,000 from their "Partnership with Ohio" program. The grant will be used by United Way for iCare's C.A.R.E. Team Initiative.

iCARE assists area students and their families to eliminate the underlying obstacles that cause students to struggle in school. The initiative is comprised of teachers, administrators and staff from multiple community and social service agencies throughout the county who work together in a school-based environment to address challenges facing at-risk students and their families. iCare currently serves 4,273 Stark County students in nine school districts and 21 school buildings.

iCare is a collaboration of the Stark County Educational Service Center, Stark County Family Council, Stark County Family Court, Stark County Job and Family Services, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County, United Way of Greater Stark County, American Electric Power (AEP), Aultman and KeyBank.

United Way of Greater Stark County is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to energize the community to care for one another by addressing health and human care needs with measurable results. For more information about United Way visit [www.uwstark.org](http://www.uwstark.org). Headquarters are at 4825 Higbee Avenue NW, Suite 101, Canton, Ohio 44718. Dial (330) 491-0445 to reach the offices.

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