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Family Financial Fair on Sat., Mar. 7 at Stark State College

United Way, Charter One Foundation and *The Repository* are co-sponsoring a Family Financial Fair, Sat., Mar. 7 at Stark State College of Technology from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event is free to the public and will feature exhibits and educational presentations from community experts. SARTA will be providing free transportation via special shuttles from central transfer stations in Alliance, Massillon and Canton to and from Stark State.

Exhibits and presenters will cover topics including improving credit reports & scores, retirement planning, investment basics, foreclosure prevention, identity theft prevention, savings, banking basics, legal tips, budgeting, paying for college and more. [Click to learn more about exhibitors and educational sessions](#)

"We are proud to co-sponsor this educational event," says Maria Heege, president and CEO of United Way of Greater Stark County. "We want to point individuals in the right direction when it comes to their finances and help families with effective ways to handle their money. This event fully represents the United Way mission to help others during difficult and worrisome times."

[Click to read more](#)

FAMILY FINANACIAL STABILITY RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE: Online Employers' Toolkit provides materials to assist workforce

Online tools designed for use by workplaces and organizations include informational and promotional tools to increase awareness of:

- EITC Tax Benefit for taxpayers - Families earning less than \$42,000 may be eligible for an Earned Income Tax Credit benefit of \$4800
- Access to free tax return preparation sites and information needed for tax preparation
- Access to the United Way's 2-1-1 Information and Referral line services
- Provide information about the community Family

NEWS & EVENTS

Save the Date

DAY OF THANKS Breakfast

Fri., Mar. 27
KSU University Center,
Stark Campus

7:30 Breakfast Buffet
8:00 Awards Program

March 27 is Your Day! At the Day of Thanks event, individuals, companies and coordinators who have given time, talent and donations to the annual campaign will be recognized at the new campaign awards breakfast event!

Hear firsthand how your one gift changes lives forever. Learn why your single gift to United Way is the best way to help the most people in our community.

Please be our guest, with support from Aultman, for breakfast!

**Please RSVP
by Mar. 20**
to Gilda Stevens at
330-491-9959 or
gstevens@uwgsc.org

Financial Fair on Saturday, March 7 at Stark State College of Technology

[Click here to access the Employers' Toolkit](#)

Free tax preparation sites listed online

Stark County residents can access free tax preparation locations, times and phone numbers to make an appointment in communities throughout greater Stark County. A list of items needed to have tax returns prepared is included.

[Click here for Free Tax Preparation Sites](#)

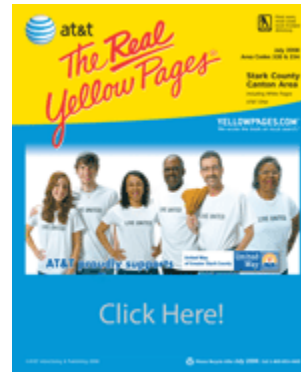
COMPASS releases 2008 Stark County Community Indicators Report

COMPASS, the data center for United Way of Greater Stark County, has released a comprehensive overview of countywide trends with specific indicators and data. The annual report, entitled "2008 Stark County Community Indicators Report," identifies trends in community living, economics, education, environment, families and households, health, neighborhood development and public safety. The free report is available online at <http://www.starkcompass.org>.

"Organizations can use the Indicators report as an assessment tool when applying for grant funding," says Merele Kinsey, Process Manager for COMPASS. "There is a movement toward data-driven decision making and many funding organizations are requiring greater accountability. COMPASS is able to provide that information."

A direct service of United Way, COMPASS is an invaluable tool for researchers, realtors, policymakers, grant writers, educators, business and industry, government, students and others who need to know facts and information about our county. In addition to statistics, COMPASS posts reports and studies about our county, does comparative analyses of Stark County to Ohio and the U.S., and provides links to many other valuable sources of local and national data. Organizations and individuals are encouraged to request data about Stark County. For more information about COMPASS, please contact Merele Kinsey, Process Manager at 330-491-9972 or mkinsey@uwgsc.org.

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