

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Way promotes Virtual Day of Action with 200 Ways to Take Action on June 21 *200 Ways to volunteer this summer in honor of Stark County's Bicentennial* *Local United Way Facebook challenge sets goal of 621 volunteer hours*

(Canton, OH) June 19, 2009 — On the longest day of the year, June 21, United Way of Greater Stark County is promoting a county-wide Virtual Day of Action, calling to action volunteers to dig deeper to the root causes of our community's challenges, coinciding with United Way of America's national Day of Action.

United Way of Greater Stark County's Virtual Day of Action serves as a catalyst to mobilize individuals, families, businesses and organizations to make a difference in the community addressing underlying challenges our community faces in the building blocks of Education, Family & Financial Stability and Health & Basic Needs.

In honor of the Stark County Bicentennial, United Way's Web site lists 200 Ways to Take Action on June 21 and beyond, broken down into priority categories of community need. www.uwstark.org/Virtual_Day_of_Action.php. Individuals and families are encouraged to act on at least one of the 200 suggestions or create their own.

On June 21, United Ways across the country will Live United and declare their intention to improve lives in measurable and lasting ways by mobilizing thousands of people around a common goal: advancing the common good in Education, Family & Financial Stability and Health & Basic Needs. United Way believes in these building blocks for a good life and that a quality education leads to a stable job, enough income to support a family through retirement, a safe place to live and good health.

Stark County residents are encouraged to support United Way of Greater Stark County through the group's Facebook cause. The page will monitor volunteer hours with a goal of 621 volunteer hours logged by July 21. Each individual wishing to participate can log their hours through the United Way of Greater Stark County Facebook page accessed via www.uwstark.org or by emailing Carrie Clemens, campaign associate, at cclemens@uwgsc.org.

Residents can also visit United Way of Greater Stark County's Volunteer Center at www.uwstark.org to connect with local volunteer opportunities.

"This is the second year we are celebrating the Virtual Day of Action," said Elizabeth Ramsburg, volunteer coordinator at United Way of Greater Stark County. "We hope to log 621 volunteer hours by July 21. Giving time, energy and other resources is equally as important as a monetary donation. By volunteering, individuals can help diverse organizations and experience a personal gratification like no other."

For more information regarding the Virtual Day of Action or local volunteer opportunities, contact Elizabeth Ramsburg at (330) 491-9953 or email eramsburg@uwgsc.org.

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. Headquarters are at 4825 Higbee Avenue NW, Suite 101, Canton, Ohio 44718. Dial (330) 491-0445 to reach the offices.

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