United Way of
Benton and Franklin Counties

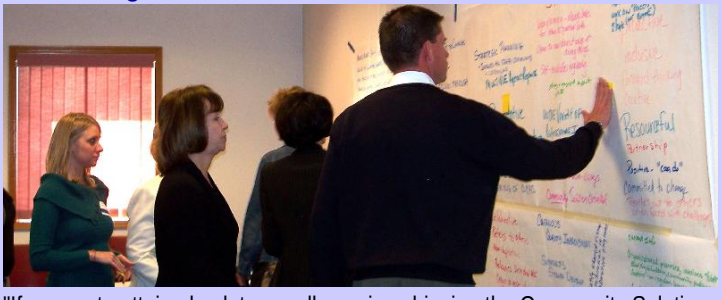
GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

LIVE UNITED

ENEWS FROM YOUR UNITED WAY

April 2009

Attaining Excellence



"If we are to attain absolute excellence in achieving the Community Solutions vision for health and human services, we need to enhance the way we work together," challenged Mark Gladstone, Principal, The Gladstone Group, and facilitator of the United Way Service Providers Meeting on April 14, 2008. This was the first of a series of conversations the group will have around taking the necessary actions to improve collaboration within the health and human service system in our community.

At the meeting, the group examined what strong collaboration should look like and brainstormed about ways they can move toward that ideal. Close to 30 agency directors and United Way representatives contributed individual and action items they will pursue in the next 60 days.

"I am excited about the opportunity to lean on each other's strengths and help one another. I look forward to celebrating small successes and creating big ones," said Jean Murrow of Grace Clinic. The group will get together again in June to report their progress and take the next step.

**"Coming together is a beginning;
keeping together is progress;
working together is success..."**

- Henry Ford

On the Calendar

YLS Badger Mt. Hike
Skyline Trailhead
Richland
Sat., April 18, 2009
10:00 a.m.

YLS Golf Tournament
Tri-City Country Club
Kennewick
Sat., May 16, 2009
1:00 p.m.

Vinter Reception hosted by
Energy***Solutions***
Anthony's Event Center
Wed., June 24, 2009
5:30 p.m.

Energy***Solutions***
United Way
Golf Tournament
Canyon Lakes
Thurs., Sept. 3, 2009
1:00 p.m.

GoodShop - Shop and Give to United Way

GoodSearch has another program called GoodShop to increase funds to participating organizations. More than 1,000 popular stores from Amazon.com to Zales.com have teamed up with GoodSearch to give a percentage of every online sale to not-for-profit organizations or schools. Every time an order is placed, the user will be supporting the United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties

Upcoming Young Leaders Society Events

Badger Mountain Hike
Saturday, April 18, 10:00 a.m.

David Comstock is going to guide the YLS on the hike and members are welcome to bring their children. The group will meet at 10:00 am at the Skyline Trailhead off Dallas Road. The hike should be finished by noon. The Skyline Trail is more gentle in slope and goes up through old growth sage and past a few small ice age flood granite boulders that kids can help find. Also, fewer people use the Skyline Trail so it should be less crowded than the Canyon Trail that goes up the north side of Badger from the City of Richland Trailhead Park. If you would like to join the YLS on this hike, wear walking shoes, and bring water and a snack to eat at the top.

3rd Annual Young Leaders Society Golf Scrambler
Saturday, May 16, 1:00 p.m.

Young professionals in the Tri-Cities are invited to register as four person teams for this non-competitive, high-spirited event at $300 per team. Single players are also welcome at $75 per player, which includes green fees, a cart, and lunch. There will be men's, women's, and mixed teams. A lunch will kick off the event. Tee sponsorships are also available for $400, which includes a team. Registration forms can be found on www.youngleaderssociety.com and are due to United Way by May 4th.

For more information on one or both of these Young Leaders Society events, contact Sarah Murphy at 783-4102 or smurphy@unitedway-bfco.com.

United Way is creating opportunities by focusing on the building blocks for a good life:

Education, Health, Safety and Self-Sufficiency

Featured United Way Service Provider:

The Children's Developmental Center:

The Children's Developmental Center (CDC) has an early intervention program funded by United Way that helps children improve their skills to the best of their abilities, as well as helps families to receive information and support. Currently, 93% of their services are being provided in the child's natural environment, per federal mandate, surpassing Washington State's goal of 80%. CDC's autism diagnosis/evaluation team consists of therapists and educators with the CDC and Dr. Scott Grewe. Families recently reported that they had to wait months to be seen at different facilities to undergo an autism diagnosis evaluation. Currently, the autism team evaluates four children per month and the results and recommendations are shared with the family the same day as the evaluation.

For a complete list of United Way funded services and providers, please visit www.unitedway-bfco.com and click on the "2008 Funded Programs" button.

with donations that average around 3% of the sale but can exceed 30%. This is another easy way to give to United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties. Visit www.goodsearch.com for more information or to start shopping.

Quick Links

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You can LIVE UNITED by helping us spread the word. Imagine how many people we could reach if everyone forwards this to five people.

+ TELL YOUR FRIENDS

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