

United Way of Mower County

GIVE, ADVOCATE, VOLUNTEER.

LIVE UNITED



NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL UNITED WAY

UWMC November Update

Community Helps Kids Stay Warm

It didn't take long for it to feel like winter around Mower County. October was a cold, rainy month. United Way kicked off it's 4th annual Community Outerwear



Drive for Kids on Oct 5th. Our goal is to provide all children in Mower County, who are in need, with essential winter outerwear.

The requests were overwhelming this year. 360 children in 134 families received a winter coat. United Way was able to fill the large number of requests due to the generous donations of gently used/new coats and financial contributions from the community.

This was a true community effort and we have many to thank for their help: Oak Park Mall for the use of a store for distribution, the YMCA, Usem, Hy-Vee, US Bank and LeRoy Center for Creative Arts for being a collection site, Hormel Foods for having an internal coat drive, Shopko, Younkers and Delta Cleaners for racks and hangers used to display coats, the Welcome Center, the women in our community who donated hand knitted hats, scarves and mittens and finally our volunteers who came and provided much needed help in sorting, displaying and distributing coats to kids.

We can all feel good about helping hundreds of children in our community have a warm coat this winter.

Get Fit Be Fit 2010



Get Fit is just around the corner. New events, seminars, features and more. Watch for more details in the coming weeks. You can visit our website at www.uwmower.org to find up to date information on Get Fit.

Give

We are half way to our goal but we are not there yet. When you donate to United Way your contribution is combined with those of others **and** your donation stays here in Mower County helping your local community and neighbors. If you have the ability to make a donation please consider doing so. You make a difference when you donate to United Way of Mower County. Change a life for the better. Give today.

United Way Raises Thermometer



The United Way updated the community November 6th on the progress of its 2009 Fundraising Campaign.

"I am happy to raise the thermometer to 57%. We're ahead of where we were this time last year but we still have a ways to go" stated Mandi Lighthizer-Schmidt, Executive Director.

Our 2009 need is \$910,000. "We saw it with the coat drive and we are seeing it with campaign, residents will not forget their community and they continue to make gifts to United Way."

Our campaign publicly runs until December 15th. If you haven't donated yet please consider making a donation. You can do so by calling our office at 437-2313 or visiting our office located in the US Bank Building in downtown Austin.

Be a part of change. Visit us at
www.uwmower.org

How I Live United



READ TO ME Literacy Event



United Way of Mower County and the Early Childhood Initiative have been working on a year long campaign focused on early learning and the importance of reading to your child.

The Early Childhood Initiative is a group of pre-schools, child serving organizations, local businesses and school districts that are concerned with early learning and the birth to five population in Mower County. The group is housed under United Way of Mower County.

For more information on the Read To Me campaign, ECI, Born Learning and links to great resources visit our website at www.uwmower.org and click on Special Initiatives then Success by 6.

VOLUNTEER

Many organizations in our community need assistance during the holiday season. Your time will make a significant difference in the lives of our neighbors.

- Your local church
- Food Shelf/Angel Tree
- CHORE Program
- Mower County Mentoring
- ARC

For other volunteer opportunities visit our website at www.uwmower.org and click on volunteer.

My name is Kelly.

Since 1991 we've called Austin our home. It's a great place to live, work and raise a family. There are many ways to get involved in your community and make it even better. I have volunteered my time and talents to a variety of organizations including Spruce Up Austin, Austin Youth Basketball Association, ReFest and various boards, including United Way of Mower County.

We all have special talents and gifts we can use to benefit those around us. Get involved, be a voice for change.

Getting involved in my community and advocating for others-that's how I Live United.

I don't just wear the shirt, I live it.

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TELL US YOUR LIVE UNITED STORY

Many of us give back to our community every day in big and small ways. If you or someone you know is doing just that, we'd like to know.

Please submit how you LIVE UNITED right here in Mower County to us at United Way.

You can submit your story to us by emailing unitedcg@smig.net

When we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all.

+ TELL YOUR FRIENDS

BE AN ADVOCATE

Forward this eNewsletter

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

Faces Behind United Way



Mandi Lighthizer-Schmidt
Executive Director



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