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Child Safety Events Planned

Mark your calendar! The United Way of Bedford County Board of Directors is pleased to announce the 2nd annual United Way Child Safety Day scheduled for **October 20 from 10-1 at H.V. Griffin Park**. Public safety representatives will be present and law enforcement officials will assist children with fingerprinting in the Child ID kits that will be distributed **free** of charge to children of all ages.



Last year, United Way of Bedford County distributed over 280 Child ID kits and activity booklets at the event. Since it's inception, over 1,100 Child ID kits have been distributed to children in Bedford County.

Child car seat safety checks have also been added as an additional event on **November 3 from 10-1 at Wal-Mart Supercenter in Shelbyville**. Medi-Facts Child Seat Kits, sponsored by Shepenco, will be distributed when the child's car seat is inspected by a THP officer.



A grant through Jostens Foundation was awarded to implement the project.

The child identification kit is designed to keep a photo, fingerprints, medical and dental information, DNA sample, and other information useful for emergencies. For information on how to obtain a Child ID kit and activity booklet contact the United Way office.

United Way of Bedford Co. Kicks Off 2007 Campaign

Used in part from Shelbyville Times-Gazette staff reports

United Way of Bedford County announced its \$250,000 campaign goal for this fall, showcased two of the agencies that benefit from United Way funding, and recognized some of the top performers from last year's campaign during a kickoff breakfast on September 11 at the Blue Ribbon Circle.



*Connie Boutwell,
Campaign Chair*

Summit Polymers was presented with the Derryberry Award for best campaign among companies with more than 100 employers, while First Community Bank received the Advocate Award for companies with fewer than 100 employers. Summit Polymers was also recognized for having the most campaign growth, while Jostens was recognized for the best campaign kick-off event, its annual Car and Bike Show. The City of Shelbyville was recognized for best new employee campaign.

Both of the agency speakers stressed that United Way contributions are investments, which not only help people but help save money in the long run.

Joyce Adams of Caregiver Relief, one of 21 agencies supported by United Way, discussed the importance of giving a break to people caring for Alzheimer's or dementia patients.

**UNITED WAY OF
BEDFORD COUNTY
2007/2008
PARTNER AGENCIES**

Adult Basic Education
Alzheimer's Association
American Red Cross
Bedford County 4-H
Boy Scouts of America-
Middle TN Council
Caregiver Relief Program
Center for Family
Development
Child Development Center
Community Clinic of
Shelbyville & Bedford Co.
Community Resource
Center
Contact Life Line
Epilepsy Foundation of
Middle TN
First Choice Pregnancy
Counseling Ctr.
Girl Scout Council of
Cumberland Valley
Great Strides Therapeutic
Riding Program
Habitat for Humanity –
Bedford Builds
Haven of Hope
Humane Association
Senior Citizens Center
TN Poison Control Center
Tony Rice Center

Studies show that if the caregiver has support, the dementia patient can stay home for an average of a year longer than otherwise. Most nursing home admissions are driven more by caregiver burnout than by a downturn in the patient's condition, she said.



Lynne Farrar, CFD

Lynne Farrar of the Center for Family Development talked about both Healthy Families and CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates), the two programs within the center which are specifically funded by United Way. Healthy Families helps to provide support and education to first-time parents who may lack the normal family support system or have other risk factors. CASA helps to represent the interests of juveniles in the court system.

Farrar said that it can cost the state \$10,000 a month to care for a child in state custody. If programs like Healthy Families and CASA can help keep just a few children in home settings, the savings to the taxpayers are huge, far exceeding what it costs to operate the programs.

County Mayor Eugene Ray stressed the fact that many health and human service agencies seek contributions from the county, which can't afford to grant all the requests. Voluntary public campaigns like United Way help make up the difference, he said.

United Way of Bedford County contributes to 21 health and human service agencies, which operate within the county. The program licenses the United Way name and logo, and participates in cooperative programs with other United Ways under the loose banner of United Way of America, but it is completely run by local volunteers and one full-time staff member, who make all decisions about what agencies to fund and in what amounts. Funding requests are carefully reviewed and evaluated before the allocations committee, and ultimately the full board of directors, decide how to divide up the available funds.

United Way allows a donor to make a single contribution and help a number of health and human service agencies serving Bedford County. Many employers allow United Way payroll deduction, so that the employee can choose to have an amount deducted from his or her pay each week and given to United Way. This allows donors to give in a relatively painless fashion and to know that their dollars are going to well-run agencies meeting real needs.

In recent months, the program has also gotten involved in developing its own initiatives, organizing Child Safety Day last fall (the program will be repeated this fall) and the just-completed "Stuff The School Bus" program, which collected school supplies for needy children.

United Way campaign committee chair Connie Boutwell emceed Tuesday's breakfast. Vice-chair Tonya Davis presented the campaign awards. John I. Carney, who is communications committee chairman, delivered the invocation, and Valerie McConnell sang the national anthem.

Persons who don't work at a company with United Way payroll deduction can make an individual gift to the agency by calling 684-6685.

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"Stuff the School Bus" a Success

"Stuff The School Bus," a drive to collect school supplies for needy children, has been a resounding success. The supplies and support received from the Bedford County community was beyond belief. During the month of July and August supplies were collected through drop boxes throughout Bedford County and through the day-long event held at Wal-Mart Supercenter. Over **6,000 items** were collected -- and that counts, for example, a plastic bag of pencils as one item, not each individual pencil.

Be a Piece of the Solution...



...for a
**Stronger
Bedford County**

WHY SHOULD YOU GIVE TO UNITED WAY?

We are Local

Funds raised here stay here. Your gift helps improve lives here in Bedford County.

We are Accountable and Efficient

Local volunteers raise the funds and allocate the funds, ensuring that every penny is spent wisely.

We are Making a Difference

Our objective is to provide every Bedford County citizen with the opportunity to participate, succeed and excel in the community.

Strengthening Services

Contributions in 2006 will provide over \$160,000 to 21 agencies serving Bedford County for the year.

The items were delivered to schools on September 5th based on poverty level and age appropriateness. Guidance counselors at each school will be in charge of making sure that the supplies are given to children who can benefit from them.

United Way of Bedford County would like to thank the many individuals, businesses, and volunteers who made this project a success. Thanks Bedford County for becoming *UNITED* to pave a better *WAY* for the future! Your contribution will have a lasting effect on children in need.



Connie Boutwell, a school system employee and a member of the United Way board; School Superintendent Ed Gray; and United Way executive director Dawn Holley examine "Stuff The School Bus" school supplies, which had been sorted and were ready for delivery to local schools.

(T-G Photo by Doug Dezotell)



One of the 21 drop boxes throughout Bedford County businesses to collect supplies



Members of the Board of Directors and the Bedford Co. 4-H Honor Club assist with sorting supplies at Wal-Mart on July 21

Jostens Car & Bike Show

The 2007 Jostens 10th Annual Car & Bike Show raised \$3,779 with over 100 participants on Saturday, September 15. Jostens organizes the special event in addition to their annual employee campaign to raise additional funds for United Way of Bedford County. Jostens has won the "Best Campaign Kick-Off" Award for several years due to the success and uniqueness of this event.



Team members organizing the event were: *Randy Bryan, Wendy Davis, Red Douglas, Anita Ferrell, Amanda & Larry Hill, Holly Holt, Michelle Majors, Paul Moulder, Chad Segroves, Todd Smith, Kris Thomson, and Aaron Truitt.*

Prescription Drug Discount Cards

Prescription drug discount cards may be obtained from local participating partner agencies or by calling United Way of Bedford County at 684-6685. Most pharmacies accept these prescription drug discount cards. They have no usage limits, age requirements or registration forms. The cards can reduce prescription drug costs by an average of 20 percent. Additional information is available at United Way of Bedford County and online at www.familywize.com.

Call 2-1-1 for Information and Referral Service

By calling 2-1-1 you will get connected to local services—from food, clothing, and shelter assistance to counseling, legal and financial services. It's helpful, it's fast – and it couldn't be easier. Get the help you need call **2-1-1**.

What Matters to You?

Safety



Security

Home



Family

The United Way of Bedford County is doing things that matter to YOUR community.

Contact Us

United Way of Bedford County
P.O. Box 1438
101 Elm Street, 2nd Floor
Shelbyville, TN 37162
(931) 684-6685
(931) 684-6616 fax
unitedwaybedford@bellsouth.net
<http://www.unitedwaybedford.org>

2007 Christmas Ornament Fundraiser



United Way of Bedford County will raise additional funds again this year for agencies through the Christmas ornament fundraiser. The 24-karat gold plated commemorative Christmas tree ornament depicts the Celebration. This ornament is a second in a series.

Christmas ornaments will be sold every year to raise additional dollars and to compensate for any pledge loss during the annual campaign. A different Bedford County historical site will be presented on an ornament every year. Last year's ornament was the Bedford County courthouse. A limited amount of the courthouse ornament is still available, so start your collection today.



2006 Ornament

Ornaments can be purchased at Antiques, Art & Collectibles Mall, Colleen's Cottage, Pinnacle Financial, Register of Deeds office or at the United Way office.

Agency & Community Happenings

Alzheimer's Association 2007 Memory Walk

Saturday, October 27
9:00am – check in
Walk will be over by noon
Tullahoma High School Wilkins Stadium



Fun for the whole family with activities such as pony rides, raffle wheel, moon bounce, face painting, music & food!
Call 931-455-3345 or toll free 800-272-3900 for more information

The Senior Citizens Center fall ham breakfast fundraiser will be held November 17, 2007 from 7:00 - 10:00a.m. at 111 J.G. Helton Drive. Door prizes will be given and crafts and baked goods will be for sale. Participants can also purchase a pencil and get their name in the drawing to win a quilt handmade by the seniors. For additional information contact Sonia Miller at 684-0019.



"Gifts from the Heart" Fundraiser

Purchase a Christmas gift in memory or in honor of your family or friends, while supporting local non-profit agencies. "Gifts from the Heart" fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, November 17, 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Shelbyville.

The Caregiver Relief Program will be participating as well as other local non-profit agencies. Come out and show your support and buy a gift that lasts a lifetime.



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The purple ribbon has been recognized by state legislatures in proclamations commemorating October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Across the country, families and friends of victims have adopted the purple ribbon to remember and honor their loved ones who have lost their lives at the hands of a person they once loved and trusted.

The display of purple ribbons throughout a community conveys a powerful message that there is no place for domestic violence in the homes, neighborhoods, workplaces or schools of its citizens. For additional information contact Haven of Hope at 1-800-435-7739