

**United
Way**



United Way of Greater Williamsburg

NEWSLETTER



2005 - 2005 - 2005 - 2005 - 2005

Volume 3, Number 1

January/February/March 2005

Reaching Out . . . Touching Lives . . .

The human hand is a wonderful tool. It builds . . . it helps . . . it heals. Add another hand and you have twice the power. Add even more and the possibilities are endless. The results . . . nothing short of miraculous. Now imagine an entire community of hands, and hearts, and minds all working together to solve problems and enrich lives. This is a way we can all reach out . . . and touch lives right here in Greater Williamsburg. The United Way.

United Way of Greater Williamsburg . . . serves as a connecting link between you and the programs we fund.

Your gifts are what make United Way work in many ways. Health and therapy . . . day care . . . youth development . . . abuse prevention . . . hot meals . . . and other special services. So, when you give, you are not really giving to United Way . . . you are giving THROUGH United Way to help others in your community. Thank you for lending a hand. Together, we can forge ahead in making Greater Williamsburg an even better place to live by reaching out and touching lives . . . right here at home.

As of December 31, 2004, we have raised over \$1.5 million.

We thank everyone in the community who has been able to help us raise the funds that benefit over 40 programs in 5 core areas of interest: Caring for People in Crisis; Investing in Children and Youth; Building Self-Sufficiency; Health and Wellness and Promoting Senior Independence.

The allocations process has already begun. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer on an allocations panel please call our office at 253-2264. Almost 100 volunteers assist with this very important decision every year.

Our Christmas adopt-a-family program was again blessed this year by generous donations of trees, gifts and food which were distributed to over 75 families. With the help of the Business Leaders of Williamsburg, live trees along with presents for the children and food and were collected and distributed to 35 families screened by United Way Information & Referral staff. The project was called "Tinsel, Trees & Timmings". Over 40 more families were adopted through United Way I&R by local businesses and families who wanted to share the joy of the holidays with others. If you are one of those people, please know that there were a lot of happy children on Christmas morning because of your generosity.

If you were unable to donate to the Adopt-A-Family program, but wish to continue the spirit of the holidays, the I&R office always takes donations of diapers and baby wipes. FISH is in desperate need of food this time of year and children's coats (new or gently used) and blankets will be accepted at the United Way office during January and February - Don't forget how fast children grow. If you have a coat from last winter that no longer fits, we can find a child that will love it!

We would like to thank Country Hearth Inn & Suites for the coat drive they ran in November and December to benefit our I&R office.

IMPACT Matters . . .

In 2004, your gifts to The United Way of Greater Williamsburg made an IMPACT on the programs we fund through our agencies. Here are some samples of what they were able to accomplish because of your gift, multiplied by the gifts of others

Meals on Wheels - daily hot meals were delivered to 203 homebound senior adults and 66 disabled adults.

Red Cross - 212 emergency communication messages were transmitted benefitting 170 military families.

Housing Partnerships - 72 homes occupied by low-income owners were rehabilitated to become safe, warm and dry.

Salvation Army - 12 families moved from transitional housing into permanent housing they can afford to maintain.

Rita Welsh Adult Skills - 76 community adults with a need to increase their educational functioning received 12 or more hours of instruction.

Bacon Street - 71% of the youth in the school and community based programs abstained from the use of alcohol and other drugs.

With your continued gifts, these programs and others will be able to provide for the needs of our community. So . . . when you give, you are not giving to The

United Way, you are giving back to your community . . . Reaching Out . . . Touching Lives . . . Right here at home.

Don't forget to log on to our website, www.UWGW.org and register your FoodLion MVP card for the Lion Shop and Share Program. Ukrops will soon start their Golden Gift Card program - you can mail us your Golden Gift Certificates or drop them by our office anytime.



CONTEST

NAME THE UNITED WAY NEWSLETTER
 Submissions can be sent via email to volunteer@uwgw.org or fax 757-253-2837 and include the newsletter name suggestion, your name and a daytime phone number where we can reach you. Winner will be notified in March and will receive a United Way Gift Basket.