

The United Way Message

- * **24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year**, United Way gifts are at work all across this community making lives better.
- * United Way is part of the fabric of this community; when disaster strikes, our ability to meet human needs is stronger and our ability to recover is enhanced.
- * United Way's work is all around you. You may not always see it, but it is there.
- * When you give your time, energy or money to United Way, it makes you feel good...and it should.

Key Points to Support the Message

- * Our United Way has a history of giving that goes back to 1918. That World War I campaign raised funds in support of the war efforts. Over time, the face of community fund raising changed many times...from War Chest to Red Feather to Community Chest, and United Fund. **In 1972 it became United Way.**
- * **\$2,062,041 was raised by our United Way in 2010's Campaign.** But keep in mind – it's more than a goal or a number to reach. Goals translate into real programs and services for people in our community. Every day, you're changing lives.
- * The positive impact of our donors' contributed dollars are assured by United Way's insistence upon measurable outcomes that show how **lives are being improved.**
- * A contribution of **\$5 per week provides transportation services for 15 seniors** in need of rides to medical appointments in a program provided by Allen County Council on Aging.
- * In response to studies showing hunger's negative impact on a child's ability to learn in school, West Ohio Food Bank, acting with a seed grant from United Way of Greater Lima in 2008, developed a nutrition program to provide a weekend supply of food to children in the public schools. Today, **233 backpacks filled with food are provided weekly to "at risk" youth most in need** of this nutrition boost.
- * **97% of all disasters addressed by Red Cross are single family home fires.** Local Disaster Action Teams answered the bell 95 times in 2010, and provided emergency housing, food, and clothing to families who lost their homes to fire.
- * **85,000 lives - individuals and families - are touched by 2010 United Way funds;** through a network of partner agencies who provide some 40 different services throughout the community.
- * Kindergarten Kamp and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library are programs to assure early childhood literacy and educational success to Allen County children. Kamp kids show a **greater performance** capability on pre- kindergarten testing than those who did not attend Kamp.
- * Over the past 15 years, United Way has invested over \$25 million in the community in the areas of:
Education, Health, and Financial Self Sufficiency
- * This year, United Way made grants of **\$1.133 million to 40 programs run by 24 different partner agencies.**

