



# The United Way Sentinel

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## Executive Director's Corner

### The United Way of Yavapai County Announces Grant Recipients

#### FIVE NON-PROFIT PROGRAMS RECEIVE GRANTS TOTALING \$65,000

More than \$65,000 was recently awarded to five Community Initiatives in Yavapai County. The grant funds went to collaborative projects spearheaded by the Coalition for Compassion & Justice, the Verde Food Council, People Who Care, Community Circle, and the Yavapai Family Advocacy Center.



The result of a working collaboration of United Way of Yavapai County and the Yavapai County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Arizona Community Foundation, the funds were awarded to collaborative programs that seek to develop or expand Community Initiatives that will help meet critical needs in Yavapai County.

Among the partner agencies that will participate in the programs above are such Yavapai County stalwarts as Central Arizona Food Bank, Sedona Community Food Bank, Camp Verde Adventist Community Services, Catholic Charities, Verde Valley Caregivers, Cornucopia, the Alzheimer's Association, Neighbor to Neighbor, Feed the Hungry, Church on the Street, Common Ground, and the Granite Creek "Pot Luck" Ministry. Another collaborator is the Town of Prescott Valley, which will assist in the Prevent Child Abuse program.

The projects, all of which are collaborative efforts aimed at providing systemic change to Yavapai County, were found to be focused, practical and feasible by the multi-disciplinary grant committee. Working across what formerly may have been proprietary boundaries, all these projects brought groups together that are committed to changing lives.

According to Executive Director of United Way of Yavapai County, Michael Whiting, "The awardees embody the new Community Impact model being used by United Way to connect identified community needs with collaborative resources. Using the Community Impact model, United Way of Yavapai County and our funding partner, the Yavapai County Community Foundation, funded programs that establish responsive and specific programs that will be measured in terms of successful outcomes."

Last year, the collaborative funders gave just over \$40,000 to two projects: the Prescott Area Women's Shelter (PAWS) and the Camp Verde Teen Center. Both those projects are in the first year of what looks to be successful life spans. Outcome information on both is available from United Way of Yavapai County.

## Community Impact Grant Process

A special group of people worked together for many, many hours, reading grants, rating them, discussing them and meeting with applicants. Most were volunteers. Staff and/or board members from both United Way of Yavapai County United Way and the Yavapai County Community Foundation joined in to make sure that those programs that address **Critical Needs** in Yavapai County were awarded the bulk of the grants for this year. Those programs that were chosen were: Community Circle, People Who Care, Coalition for Compassion & Justice, the Verde Food Council and the Yavapai Family Advocacy Center. Thanks to all our dedicated helpers!



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## PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

United Way of Yavapai County worked extensively with Yavapai County Community Foundation and the AZ Department of Economic Security (DES) in planning and implementing our Community Impact and grant processes.

We are grateful to both groups for their generous financial support and/or shared expertise.

Many grant team members are pictured here.

## Featured Program

**O**ne program that was awarded a Community Impact Critical Needs grant is the **YAVAPAI FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER**, a multidisciplinary team of regional professionals – law enforcement, Child Protective Services (CPS), healthcare professionals, educators, therapists and prosecutors – that is a program of Prevent Child Abuse Arizona, in a collaboration with the City of Prescott Valley. The collaboration allows the program to focus on issues involving domestic violence within that jurisdiction. The result has been increased identification of the enormity of the issues, enhanced services to victims, improved investigative techniques, aggressive prosecution of suspects and community/professional education. A monthly meeting of community stakeholders advises and oversees the project.

The Yavapai Family Advocacy Center opened its doors in October 2000, and has received funding from United Way in the past. There is no other agency in Yavapai County that provides this kind of service to this target population: victims of personal crime in Yavapai County.

The successful collaboration continues. In Yavapai County there are thirteen individual law enforcement agencies, several CPS offices, two hospitals and a multitude of allied professionals that typically respond to reports of child abuse, vulnerable adult abuse, sexual assault and family violence. **These professionals coordinate their response and service through the Yavapai Family Advocacy Center.**

The success of this program can be attributed not only to a unique and sensible model that encourages communication through collaboration, but also to the strong leadership of Prevent Child Abuse Arizona in addition to the leadership of the Yavapai County Attorney's Office.

Some of the services the program provides are: forensic medical exams, therapy, personal advocacy, emergency financial assistance, referral to safe house, group treatment/support, forensic interviewing and crisis counseling.

We wish the Yavapai Family Advocacy Program and its collaborative partners the best as they continue this important work.

## LOCAL SENIOR COMPANION RECEIVES GOVERNOR'S AWARD

One of Yavapai County's own volunteers recently won the **Governor's Volunteer Service Award!** Senior Companion Volunteer Patrick Horrell, who works in the Sedona area, has been exceptional, giving his all and going out of his way for his clients, according to the Senior Companion Director for the Verde Valley, Shana Smith. Patrick, who is a veteran, is able to relate well with many of the Senior Companion's male clients because many of them have also served our country. Congratulations to Patrick and to the Senior Companion Program in Yavapai County!



Mark your Calendars!

**Resource Fair  
Scheduled for  
October 24**



### Surviving & Thriving In Troubled Times

United Way of Yavapai County and Co-sponsoring Partners (Boy Scouts of America, AWEE) are sponsoring a **FREE Resource Fair on Saturday, October 24, 2009** from 9 to 4PM at the Church of Latter-Day Saints (Donated facility) on Sandretto in Prescott, AZ

### Free to Partners and Attendees

Featuring local experts speaking on subjects vital to surviving (and thriving) in troubled times, this event features local non-profit agencies and governmental entities to help. Booths are still available to area non-profit organizations (see below for contact information!) Those who staff the booths will be available for individuals and families to get questions answered and learn about how to receive vital benefits.

Childcare will be provided so that parents of young families may attend. There will be activities children to learn what they can do, small things to take the pressure off families at home. There will also be a "Jump Room" for the kids.

#### Topics will include:

- ✓ How to create and live on a budget
- ✓ Credit Counseling Financial Planning for retirement
- ✓ Retrofitting retirement for already retired
- ✓ How to apply for a loan you can afford
- ✓ Mortgage foreclose/refinancing
- ✓ Buying a foreclosure
- ✓ The State of the Towns and City
- ✓ Exercise and Nutrition: Moving & Eating to stay well
- ✓ How to buy smarter at the grocery store
- ✓ How to cook for less & eat better (with food tasting)
- ✓ Providing health care-giving for elderly
- ✓ Disability and Long Term Care
- ✓ How to talk to your kids about money or lack thereof
- ✓ Yoga, meditation, relaxation and stress management
- ✓ How to look for a job
- ✓ Returning to the job market after retirement
- ✓ Preparing for retirement: OLLI, Senior Connection
- ✓ Living with less hours and less pay
- ✓ Looking for more in jobs & settling for less (for now)

#### Special programs for children:

- Do you understand?
- How can you help?
- What do you need?

Recreation activities (Parks and Recreation Department)

Plus!!

**Keynote Address by  
AZ Secretary of State  
KEN BENNETT**

**Want more info? Want to set up a booth for your organization? Contact Muriel Haverland at (928) 443-5353 or [murielh@q.com](mailto:murielh@q.com).**

# "TNT" Campaign Cabinet Update

"DYNAMITE" LEADERSHIP FOR 2009 CAMPAIGN



Michael Whiting, Tim Carter, Tom Thurman, Deborah Darby, Don Shaffer

The important work of raising awareness of the needs of the community and developing resources to meet those needs, led by the 2009-2010 United Way Campaign Cabinet, is underway.

Market segments have been identified and champions of each industry have volunteered to provide leadership!

The 2009 United Way Campaign Cabinet, which is composed of community volunteers, includes the following members: Alyce Ayers, William Emerson, Alex Perkins, Rowle Simmons, Marnie Uhl, Hector Riojas, Michael Davidson, Sharon Bell, Pete Weaver, Tom Thurman, Mark Timm, Tim Carter, Steve Norwood, Irene Evans, JJ McCormack, Jeffrey Hall and Monica Bishop.

The efforts of the Campaign Cabinet are assisted by United Way of Yavapai County staff members Michael Whiting, Don Shaffer, Barbara McKeever, Deborah Darby and Ann Przysocki.

## Co-captains Tim Carter and Tom Thurman,

along with United Way of Yavapai County Campaign Executive, Don Shafer, have brought together a dynamic group of community leaders. They plan to reach out to other businesses and organizations throughout the area in an effort to set up meetings with an eye toward doing employee campaigns and/or requesting corporate donations to help fund Community Impact programs next year.

If you or your organization would like to have a long-lasting, impact on your

own community, but you aren't able to carry out an employee campaign... here's the best way for you to help by donating to United Way...



## Join the 2009 Club

Most individuals and businesses recognize both the tangible and intrinsic value of giving back to their communities. In Yavapai County, many find the payroll deduction method of donating to United Way effective and convenient.

Still, some organizations aren't set up to do payroll deductions and/or can't allow employee campaigns. So here is an easy way to make those important contributions to your local United Way.

A monthly donation of \$167.14 makes you or your business a member of the **2009 Club**. Won't you help fund Community Impact (Critical Needs, Successful Lives and Commitment to Learning) in our area? Fully 98% of funds raised stay right here at home in Yavapai County.

Won't you consider becoming a member of the 2009 Club? Call us at (928) 778-6605 for more details.

## United Way Information Network (UWIN) takes Leadership Role in Yavapai Information & Referral Project

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is now being offered to interested organizations that wish to participate in Yavapai Information and Referral (Yavapai I&R). This project is led by a diverse coalition that is in the process of planning (with the goal of implementing and overseeing) a telephone and web-based Information and Referral system through the use of an easy to remember dialing code. The Yavapai I&R Project will provide quick referrals to those who provide human services for those that need them as well as collecting data to assist communities in assessing needs and allocating resources.

The Yavapai I & R project is a direct outgrowth of the need established by participants during several Community Conversations throughout the county.

"United Way of Yavapai County, via our UWIN program, will be the publisher," says UWYC Executive Director, Michael Whiting. "We will have the responsibility for housing and maintaining the database."

This exciting project seeks to broaden the I&R Coalition by identifying barriers and building support. Spearheaded in its present form by United Way of Yavapai County, in partnership with almost a dozen other agencies and government services, Yavapai I&R seeks other partners who can bring resources (financial, human, in-kind, update information) to support the initiative. Partners are also encouraged to "write in" I&R technology funding when seeking grants, i.e., "\$500 to support referral technology". Such funding could then be contributed to the project.

Yavapai I & R Partnership will provide "member partners" with leadership in planning and implementing the system, a commitment to improvement of quality of I&R service delivery countywide, the development of policies and procedures, advocacy, funding and regulatory strategies as well as technical assistance to regional stakeholders. Additionally, there will be opportunities for member partners and others to give guidance and feedback through open communication and regular meetings.

Don't miss the chance to become a vital part of this important project! Contact United Way of Yavapai County at (928) 778-6605. And be sure to keep an eye on our website at [unitedwayyavapai.org](http://unitedwayyavapai.org).



United Way Information Network

# The Verde Valley Viewpoint

by Deborah Darby, United Way Coordinator for the Verde Valley

## Camp Verde Teen Center is "A'Chillin!!"

The Teen Center was one of the first organizations to receive a Community Impact grant. For more information on the Teen Center, contact Katelyn Cohen at [kcohen@ycvp.org](mailto:kcohen@ycvp.org).

**The Teens A'Chillin' Youth Center** would like to extend its sincere thanks to United Way and the Yavapai County Community Foundation for the grants they have awarded us. Without this financial help, the youth center would not be serving the number of kids that it does today (an average of 20 kids per day!) Your support is appreciated!  
**Joe Perez of the Camp Verde Parks & Rec Department & the Camp Verde Teens A'Chillin Teen Center Staff**

## Verde Valley Economic Preparedness Planning Forum

United Way of Yavapai County/Verde Valley United Way recently co-sponsored an Economic Preparedness Planning Forum, along with a wide range of co-sponsors, brought churches and helping agencies together to discuss ways to address the current economy.

More than 30 agency representatives, government officials and others attended this facilitated program that resulted in the formation of Action Teams that will take the momentum of the Forum and work together to solve real-world problems.

### Co-sponsoring Partners:

City of Cottonwood  
Northern Arizona Interfaith Council  
Department of Economic Security  
Northern Arizona Council of Governments  
Friends of Cottonwood  
Boy Scouts of America

Once again, a primary need expressed was for a "clearing house" for Information and Referral. UWIN was formed by United Way of Yavapai County five years ago and is wholly funded by donations from the community. The toll-free phone number for UWIN is 888-449-5321.

An Action Team focusing on bringing together all resources doing and/or needing information and referral resources continues to meet. The goal is to become a county-wide resource based on the AZ 211 concept.

Other discussions ranged from ways to develop neighborhood groups, to effective means of keeping the public informed, to meeting basic needs in Verde Valley Communities.

Action Teams will begin meeting soon!

For more information about the role of United Way in the Verde Valley, please contact Deborah Darby at (928) 202-0449. To learn more about the other good work United Way is doing throughout the county, please go to the United Way website at [www.unitedwayyavapai.org](http://www.unitedwayyavapai.org).

## Valley Newcomer Volunteers to help United Way in the Verde Valley

Verde Valley newcomer Toni Ryan of Rimrock has volunteered her time and efforts to help with United Way, signing on to assist with campaign development. She also plans to join the Verde Valley Advisory Council for United Way.



"As the former director of a program that relied on United Way funding, I'm keenly aware of the value of United Way to the communities they serve."  
Toni Ryan

Toni is a former nonprofit professional who has recently relocated to the Verde Valley. She says, "I have always believed in giving back to the community in which I

live. I look forward to strengthening the United Way presence for those in need in the Verde Valley." She was Executive Director of a domestic abuse facility in Bend, Oregon, for 13 years before coming to the Verde Valley.

"Toni, along with everyone else who serves on the United Way Advisory Council, has the generous, giving heart of a volunteer. But more than that, each of them also has the talent of true leadership, working to make our communities better."

The 2009 Annual Campaign will get underway soon. For further information regarding Verde Valley United Way, please contact Darby at (928) 202-0449 or by email at [verdevalleyunitedway@msn.com](mailto:verdevalleyunitedway@msn.com).



## A BIG THANK YOU

...to current members of the Verde Valley Advisory Council including Wayne Ferguson, Jerry Doerksen, Susan Barrington and Harvey Grady (above standing) and Margie Beach, with United Way staff Deborah Darby and Michael Whiting, (seated). Inset, left, is Advisory Council member Patricia Schultz.)