



Jennings County
United Way

2009 Annual Report



Jennings County
United Way

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www.jcunitedway.com

LIVE UNITED.

2009 Board of Directors

Cindy Corya

Mark Dearing

Wanda Ferguson

Linda Greathouse

Tim Grady

Greg Hicks

Mary Houglan

Steve Hoppock

Allyson Kage

Dave Kopitzke

Bryce Mayer

Jill Ritchey

Keith Rogers

Simeon Stearns

Amy Webster

James Webster

Amanda Young

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED



Our United Way Programs continue to grow in both strength, and number engaging student leaders, eager volunteers and most importantly building relationships.

The 4Community2 grant provided its own challenges, and a chance to succeed. This grant, awarded through the State Association of United Ways, provided matching funds to build the 2008 and 2009 campaigns. It afforded us an opportunity to write our own challenge, and plan our own impact. Our challenge to ourselves? Find \$46,500 in new campaign dollars over the two year period. The matching grant dollars were targeted for the activation of 211 in Jennings County, United Way Youth Programs, and capacity building. We claimed the full match, and 211 officially launched 12-11-09.

2009 held other opportunities that included a collaborative grant with Jackson, Johnson and Shelby County that funded the start up of our CharityTracker Network and a Financial Stability grant that fueled the Financial stability partnership.

New opportunity awaits in 2010, and United—we will succeed.

LIVE UNITED. Think, speak, and act in ways that advance the common good.



2009 Campaign Chair Kathryn Johnson and 2009 Industry Co-Chair Tim Grady

Our Mission Is to provide vision and leadership in the communities pursuit of a rich and full quality of life for all people in Jennings County.

Once upon a time... Our United Way's Beginning

by Dick Kage, First Board President, 1963 Founding Board of Directors

Many years ago, more than I care to remember, in the early 1960's; a group consisting of business men, professionals, educators, and interested citizens, began discussing the feasibility of organizing a united fund. We consulted with representatives from other united funds and it became clear this was the direction we needed to go.

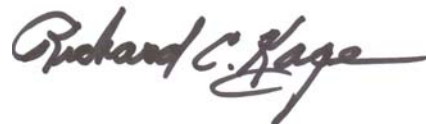
Finally, in the spring of 1963, our efforts came to completion. The organization was incorporated and we adopted the name "Jenny" as a slogan for our fund raising drive. Some of the original board of directors and officers that I recall were: Alice Rohrer (teacher) – Vice President, Janet Johnson (wife of Dr. William Johnson) – Secretary, and Les Helm (First Financial Bank) – treasurer. It was my privilege to serve as the first President. Other members were: Joe Caradonna (local business man), Bob Brown (attorney), Howard Lickerman (Regal Rugs), and Mrs. Harry McManus (teacher). I know I have omitted some, and I apologize, because there were many other volunteers who served faithfully.

Our first fund drive set a goal of \$15,000.00. The recipients were: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Salvation Army, Red Cross, and Mental Health.

Muscatatuck State Hospital and Training Center, known then as the State School, was the largest employer in Jennings County, and consequently a major contributor to the fund via direct employee contributions. In ensuing years Muscatatuck, as well as other industries, commenced contributing through payroll deductions.

It has been gratifying to observe the growth of the united fund, and I extend my sincere wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,



Richard Kage, 1963 Board President

Looking ahead to the future

Our United Way will celebrate 50 years of service to our community in 2013.

LIVE UNITED Chili CookOff KickOff

The Chili CookOff brought people in our community together for a fun, family-friendly event held at St. Mary's Parish Center that featured chili tasting, music, and a **LIVE UNITED**. Proclamation that officially kicked off **LIVE UNITED**. and the 2009 Campaign in our community. State Representative Dave Cheatham won the much coveted **LIVE UNITED** chili ladle for his now famous "Patriotic Chili", chosen by attendee's votes. Contestants poured their chili together to create **LIVE UNITED** Chili, dipped up by event chair Mary Hougland, to feed the crowd. "the chili cookoff was a fun-filled night and a success for a first time event", said Hougland. The "United Chili" turned out quite tasty, demonstrating yet again that when we join hands— great things happen.

2009 Volunteer of the Year Scott Franks

Scott Franks was announced as the 2009 volunteer of the Year at the United Way Annual meeting.

Scott served two three-year terms on the United Way board of directors, and worked hard as treasurer several of those years. He was also Day of Caring Chair for three years, and has been a true asset to this United Way, and our community.

Franks was honored at the Indiana State Association of United Way's Volunteer Awards Banquet at the State Leaders Conference in Indianapolis March 19th, 2009.

LIVE UNITED Student Campaign

Jennings County Students raise around \$10,000 each year for United Way. More importantly, they learn about philanthropy and reach out to thousands of people to talk about United Way. These youth are our future leaders.



www.jcunitedway.com

Advancing the common good online!

New tools make it easier to connect with your community as our website evolves into a community connector and donor resource providing faster or more efficient service for volunteers, programs, agencies and donors alike. Improvements include a completely secure SSL (Secure Socket Layer technology) eSite for donations and credit card transactions to help us better **LIVE UNITED**. and implement our mission to provide vision and leadership in Jennings County. Sign up for new **CommunityConnections**-our new eNewsletter; RSVP online for meetings, the **CommunityCalendar** coordinates community events; you can even join our Facebook group.

Day of Caring registration is available online right now, for volunteers, teams, and projects, and makes it easier than ever to join hands and impact lives.

What it means to **LIVE UNITED**.

Underneath everything we are.

Underneath everything we do.

We are all people—Connected, interdependent, united.

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



2009 United Way Dollars for Scholars Scholarships

We made it a little easier for 21 Jennings County students to afford college. United Way Dollars for Scholars Scholarships are awarded each year to help recognize academic achievement among a larger number of graduating seniors in Jennings County who have made the choice to pursue higher education. The program started in 1964, then awarding 15- \$100 scholarships each year. This continued until 1992 when 25- \$100 Scholarships were awarded. The all-time high was reached for both the dollar amount of each scholarship, and number of scholarships awarded in 1998 when 31- \$350 scholarships were awarded. During 2009 21- \$380 were awarded.

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|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Nesa Allen | Ashley Harrison | Raul Miranda |
| Natalie Ammerman | Taylor Hess | Samone Pettit |
| Alisha Bragg | Rene' Jackson | Chase Schneider |
| Darian Casterter | Lauren Langtange | Joshua Selig |
| Andi Corya | Kayla Leonard | Matthew Thompson |
| Annie Ertel | Brittney MacCormack | Jessica Vogel |
| Linzi Firsich | Schylar Massey | Aubry Wood |

Note: Schylar Massey is not related to Cheri Massey, United Way Executive Director.



We are bringing together whole new generations of young people in our community who possess a strong desire to Give, Advocate and Volunteer. JCYL provides opportunities and experiences to strengthen the leadership skills in high school students. New activities include “Pay it Forward”, a program that has these students thinking about advancing the common good and a Peer Pressure Program that extends into the Middle and High Schools.

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|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Mikelle Bradshaw | Mariah Hicks | Morgan Reece |
| Amy Burbrink | Megan Kelsay | Michelle Risacher |
| Kaleb Coryell | Jordan Kent | Rachel Schroeder |
| Kirsten Cox | Brock Leach | Nick Shepherd |
| Victoria Crick | Alli McFall | Emily Smith |
| Bryce Daugherty | Elizabeth McFall | Matt Speer |
| Julie Doran | Ashlee Morris | Mandy Steward |
| Andrew Flora | Macy Morrison | Victoria Suding |
| Matt Flora | Olivia Myers | Katherine Vogel |
| Gates Galloway | Callie Pieratt | |

2009 Day of Caring

The third Saturday each April brings together around 350 people in our community for a hands on, **LIVE UNITED** focused event that makes a real



impact in the lives of neighbors, and agencies in our community. Projects ranged from washing windows and doing yard work for elderly, to landscaping the corner of Hwy's 50 and 3&7, where our stick people now live, to painting and minor home repairs. A total of 64 projects were completed, all in just one Saturday morning—What a difference a day makes when we join hands to work together.



Finding help hasn't always been easy.

Now it is as easy as dialing 2-1-1. First Call for Help 211 is a seamless network of information and referral services.

Long awaited Jennings County 211 launched 12-11-09 with Mayor Campbell placing the first official call at 2:11pm. The 211 dialing code is now fully activated in all of Jennings County, including accessibility from cell phones. 211 is "the number to call" or website to visit, when you need help but don't know where to turn. 211 provides real-time community needs data that will help community organizations recognize emerging and shifting service demands. Additionally, aggregate data will be collected to assist in assessing community needs and allocating resources.

Those dialing 211 speak with a specialist that is trained to ask the right questions and assess the whole situation. The result helps shift assistance from a "crisis to crisis" model into a more complete resource, that provides information to address the cause of crisis, as well as help clients quickly find help. The information and referral services eases the burden of searching for assistance. Our Jennings County 211 will work with the Jennings County CharityTracker Network to provide an enhanced 211 system to those in need.

Jennings County call volume more than tripled in December with 93 calls to 211. With 211 launching 12-11, December wasn't even a complete month! Demographics and needs data are collected from each call, as well as referrals and top unmet needs. January 2010 yielded 94 calls, with top need over the two months identified as utility assistance.

211 assistance database is also online and linked from www.jcunitedway.com

Disaster Planning

Indiana Disaster Fund dollars became available through the Indiana State Association of United Ways, which is managed locally by United Way as a result of widespread flooding during 2008. Later they were expanded to include damages from Hurricane Ike winds that same year, and disaster preparedness planning. Funds helped local agencies recoup expenses incurred in meeting needs and helped individual families who didn't qualify for FEMA assistance to recover and repair damaged homes. Non profit agencies are now planning for their own agency needs, as well as inclusion in the Jennings County Emergency Management Agency's Community Wide Disaster Plan. As a result, formal disaster plans will be shared in dual locations, working relationships are established and we are better prepared to respond quickly, in a coordinated effort if disaster strikes our community.



1,253 people helped since CharityTracker launched late summer.

Jennings County CharityTracker Network is a software based network of local agencies who provide assistance to people in need. CharityTracker connects these vital agencies to streamline client intake in a common database and reduce duplication of service to stretch available community resources to help meet the most urgent needs.

Since its launch late summer, 1,253 people have been helped. Our Jennings County Charity Tracker Network currently has 22 agencies with 44 agents within those agencies. There are 1,295 cases already, with 935 assistance records that total of over \$45,000 of assistance already booked. Some assistance is not assigned a dollar value, so the actual help is even more.

CharityTracker Agencies and agents participated in an intake and assessment training conducted by IVY Tech that was greatly needed in this community. This training equipped the agencies providing direct assistance with the skills to uniformly meet client's needs in a humane, efficient manner. We have also had three separate trainings on using the CharityTracker system itself.

CharityTracker has already proven to be an invaluable tool for bringing agencies together. Agencies that serve common needs, but had not worked together now collaborate, often daily, to meet needs on a more immediate, grander scale.

Financial Stability.

Secure futures.



www.jcunitedway.com

Families need a hand up.

Working families desire security. Financial stability creates lasting change and ensures a brighter future for children.

We are bringing together organizations that independently assist people struggling with financial issues to collaborate in an effective system of resources that offers assistance and guidance to the next step, with the goal of moving into real financial stability. We want to create lasting, positive impact on families. Our CharityTracker Network helps monitor client progress and close gaps in beneficial areas. Financial Partnership strategies used include basic budgeting education, Earned Income Tax Credit awareness and financial literacy education to promote savings and prepare families to make informed decisions to gain and sustain assets such as home ownership, and ultimately help families establish a stable position so they aren't reliant on crisis assistance. More information, dates & times are available on our website.