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Jennings County United Way

707 N State St., North Vernon IN 47265



CommunityConnections

Text JCUNITEDWAY to 22828 or scan this QR code:

We'll email you our occasional eNewsletter with information & news!

2016-2017

Community Report

An annual report to the community highlighting what we have accomplished together—UNITED.

**Jennings County
United Way**

jcunitedway.com

LIVE UNITED



A Message

This community report is for you because it is your support that makes our programs possible. Every story you read, every number we share, every picture that makes you smile - they're all because caring people like you have made the decision to support our United Way.

United Way has been working to improve lives in Jennings County since 1963. Our United Way has evolved from a conduit for funds into an organization actively dedicated to making an impact that lasts.

Our United Way focuses on the building blocks for a good quality of life, education, Financial Stability, health, and crisis services. A volunteer-driven organization, our United Way partners with hundreds of volunteers and dozens of local organizations to provide human service programs and annually serves over 20,000 Jennings County residents.

2016 brought exciting changes, including a ServeIndiana Grant that funded a project to renovate the dilapidated playground at Country Squire Lakes for Spring Day of Caring, with an outpouring of support from our local community. The fall Day of Caring launched our United Way campaign. I am blessed to know, and forever grateful for, the hundreds of people who step up spring and fall, year after year to **LIVE UNITED** in our community.

Thank you for volunteering your time and dedicating your financial resources. Because of you, lives are changing, families are succeeding and our community is moving forward.



Our Mission

"To provide vision and leadership in the community's pursuit of a rich and full quality of life for all people in Jennings County."

Financial Summary

As of December 31, 2016. Complete, audited financial reports & IRS 990s available online at jcunitedway.com and Guidestar.org.

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash	171,417	Designations Payable	13,339
Prepaid Expenses	4,379	Accounts Payable	51,841
Endowment (fair market)	23,985	Mortgage Note	108,231
Property and Equipment	12,037	Accrued Expenses	4,006
Accum Depreciation	(16,731)	Total Liabilities	177,416
Building & Land	150,011	Fund	
Pledges Receivable	75,540	Net Assets-Unrestricted	116,490
Allowance Uncollectible	(20,324)	Net Assets-Temp Restr.	89,657
Total Assets	\$400,314	Net Assets-Perm Restr.	23,985
		Change in Net Assets	(7,235)
		Total Fund	222,898
		Total Liabilities & Fund bal.	\$400,314

Funds Deployed

2015 Agency Program Grants		United Way Programs	
Advocates for Children	9,400	Bridges Out of Poverty	651
Big Brothers Big Sisters	7,000	Getting Ahead	2969
Family Connections	1,000	Financial Peace University	1215
Foster Grandparent Program	2,000	Assist. Network CharityTracker	2,578
Good Samaritan Food Pantry	4,700	Day of Caring	6,901
Our Hospice of Jennings County	5,600	Designations	8,679
Jennings Co. Domestic Violence	12,500	Dollars for Scholars	3,069
Jennings Co. Youth Foundation	1,000	Student Lunch & Learns	143
Jennings County Swim Club	4,000	Youth Leadership Philanthropy	1672
Legal Aid District Eleven	4,000	Disaster Relief	249
Scipio Athletic	2,000	Other	94
Senior Resources	1,000		\$29,804
House of Hope, Inc.	9,400		
United Way 211	1,000		
Temporary Shelter Vouchers	1,000		
	\$65,600	Total Deployed: \$	95,404

2016 Board of Directors

Beth Burnett, President
Kendall Willdey, Vice President
Steve Sollman, Treasurer
Linda Erler
Bryce Mayer
Carl Risk
Makinsey Yonts

Dan Wright, Past President
Connie Rayburn, Secretary
Angie Donnell
Rita Hurley
Reina Puckett
Caleb Reynolds

Beyond the Dollars

A significant portion of the time and resources of our United Way is devoted to managing programs & grants to improve the quality of life in our community. We maintain a low admin percentage, just 16%, which includes the cost of raising funds to support dozens of programs.

917 people volunteered 7657 hours in 2016, valued at \$176,865. United Way received over \$10,000 in Gifts in Kind of goods & services.

United Way offers training and support to local non-profit agencies to promote standards of excellence in board governance, program outcomes and financial accountability.

United Way administers the Jennings County Emergency Food & Shelter Program. This is a federal award assisting local agencies operating programs that meet needs for food, shelter, rent & utilities.

United Way also serves as the fiscal entity for several groups, and also provides leadership in the JC CARES, a group who's mission is to promote addiction recovery resources in our community.

Commitment to Transparency



Complete, audited financial reports & IRS 990s are available online at jcupnitedway.com and Guidestar.org. GuideStar Gold level demonstrates our deep commitment to nonprofit transparency and accountability. We have a long-held belief in being transparent and work hard to showcase our progress toward our mission.

UnitedIN16 Grant

This \$40,000 matching grant from the Indiana Association of United Ways was awarded in 2016. The focus is increasing resources that improve Financial Stability in the community – to promote financial literacy, economic self-sufficiency and equip low-income individuals with the skills, knowledge and support systems necessary to effectively combat poverty, with an emphasis on launching a VITA Program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) to assist low income individuals with filing their tax returns.

Our Financial Stability Programs help strengthen self-sufficiency in low income families by building resources that reduce reliance on crisis assistance. This supports the ultimate goal for this program, which is to build a financially stronger community.

It is a goal to raise awareness of the issues of poverty so that everyone can come together to remove barriers that make it difficult for people to get out of poverty. Increased understanding and responsiveness to the financial service needs of the under resourced and increased financial literacy will have impacts to reduce strain on assistance and create a more stable community.

VITA Program—our first year

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program launched in the spring of 2017. We have a total of 7 volunteers who certified through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to serve clients. 119 returns completed were completed this first year. The Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of the people we served is \$17,000, with 50 of those taxpayers being 60+. We helped ensure 43 Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) were claimed.

Return on Investment (ROI) is estimated at \$142,000 for the first year.

Financial Peace University

During our 2016 Financial Peace University class, the participants cut up 17 credit cards and closed those accounts. A total of \$50,000 worth of debt was paid off, and \$23,000 was saved by these 15 participants.

Jennings County Youth Leadership

We are bringing together new generations of young leaders in our community who possess the desire to Give, Advocate and Volunteer.

JCYL provides opportunities and experiences to strengthen the leadership skills in high school students. During 2015, 37 Jennings County students participated in off campus classes and learning experiences once a month, with each class focusing on different aspects of leadership.

2015-16 JCYL class participants included— Savannah Barrett, Cody Cox, Rebecca Driver, Danielle Green, Rachel Green, Jonathan Kipper, Lexi Kipper, Charley Laman, Caroline McDonald, Jeremiah McNicholas, Jake Olson, Daniel Redmond, Duncan Rowda, Clarissa Sharp, Kiya Simpson, Hannah Sporeleder, Alyssa Wells, and student leaders Reina Puckett and Makinsey Yonts.

2016-17 class participants included Claire Ashcraft, Savannah Barrett, Paige Bateman, Hailey Brown, Sydney Carson, Kyla Franklin, Jadon Griner, Jacob Hendren, Gavin Hendrix, Morgan Henry, America (Paige) Hoffman, Daniel Hoffman, Amanda Jaquess, James Klinger, Evann Owens, Sarah Payne, Alicia Sporleder, and student leader Cody Cox.

Days of Caring

“When you reach out a hand to one, you improve the condition of all.” Day of Caring exemplifies this motto with a very hands on volunteer experience that improves lives, brings people together and changes hearts.

2016 marked our 17th Day of Caring, with about 600 volunteers participating. We were awarded a state grant through ServeIndiana that provided the funding to renovate the depilated playground at Country Squire Lakes. Over a hundred volunteers scraped paint, raked, dug baselines, painted, put down sand, installed new swings, basketball backboards, painted the tennis court fence and even re-roofed the shelter house.

The fall event kicked off the annual United Way campaign. Days of Caring in both spring and fall, which began in 2015, will be a tradition now.

Day of Caring Chair Kelly Sabelhaus said “This communitywide effort does so much good for Jennings County.”

Bridges Out of Poverty

This work is about connectedness and relationships; it’s about all of us. Poverty creates unique and often hidden obstacles that require specific strategies to overcome. Bridges offers a common language of understanding, both for people living in poverty and for those who work with them—the two target populations of the Bridges initiative.

839 participants have attended Bridges Out of Poverty workshops. 96% report having a better understanding of the issues surrounding poverty.

Getting Ahead

Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-By World is a program that helps individuals in poverty build their resources for a more prosperous life for themselves, their families, and ultimately our community.

To date, 64 people have participated in this intensive 17 week workshop.

Jennings County Assistance Network

CharityTracker connects local nonprofits and churches to better serve those in need by sharing client and assistance information and eliminate redundancy. This network provides shared client data, a common bulletin board, a directory of agencies, referrals between agencies and an outcomes module to track impact. To date, 10,456 people have been served through 21,025 acts of kindness totaling \$1,623,382 in assistance.

United Way Dollars for Scholars

We made it a little easier for 15 graduates to afford college. Since this scholarship program started in 1964, a total of \$181,175 has been awarded to 864 Jennings County students. These students received \$200 Scholarships in 2016:

Lucinda Brewster, Daymond Craddock, Sophie Edens, Justine Foster, Adrienne Garris, Adrianna Gasper, Emilee Greathouse, Emily Grider, Carley Hauk, Adam Jackson, Kyndyl Olds, Brooke Short, Jared Thomas, Kassi Whitehead, and Shelbi Wright