



your impact

North Central Florida Community

Newsletter

United Way
of North Central Florida

Leading the community to focus on issues and build solutions that improve lives.

Formerly the United Way of Alachua County

Focusing on what matters.

what matters: people.

2005 campaign kicks-off

Goal set at \$3.4 million

United Way of North Central Florida kicked off its 2005 Campaign in conjunction with the 2nd Annual Day of Caring event on Sept. 1 at the Alachua County Library District's Downtown Branch. This year's goal was set at \$3,400,000 by the United Way board. Jenni Wright, director of the campaign, said she is confident that this year's goal is attainable. "This community is very giving and the people want to help strengthen it," Wright asserted.

Roland Daniels, Saturn of Gainesville president, will serve as the 2005 campaign chair. "It's an honor to have Roland's leadership and support for this year's campaign," stated Karen Bricklemeyer, president of United Way of North Central Florida. "Saturn of Gainesville's leadership and staff have always played a significant role in our campaign success. We look forward to sharing the energy Roland and his team have about our United Way."

A major goal of this year's campaign is to increase the amount of money raised for the Community Care Fund.

United Way's Community Care Fund partners include 27 non-profit organizations, which depend on United Way to raise money for critical programs that provide solutions to community problems. The Community Care Fund offers donors a way to help hundreds of people with one gift.

Your United Way of North Central Florida works year-round to make sure your donations are used to help people in North Central Florida. For each agency requesting funding, volunteers review the budgets, visit the agencies and talk to clients to learn more about the quality of services provided. With that information in hand,

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Roland Daniels, the 2005 campaign chair, addresses volunteers at kick off.

Health & social service agencies call in to help

More than 20 health, social service and government agencies participated in a series of United Way-hosted conference calls to share information on the needs and resources available for Hurricane Katrina victims residing in North Central Florida.

The first weekly call took place on Thursday, September 15. Conference callers included the Alachua County Crisis Center, Alachua County Sheriff's Office, American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, Department of Children and Families, Santa Fe Community College, United Way and many others assisting people displaced by the storm.

benefits to the victims of Hurricane Katrina," stated Lieutenant Jim Troiano of the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

Conference call minutes are available from the United Way website at unitedwayNCFL.org.

"You don't have to go very far away to help people affected by Katrina, and United Way is very proud to be able to help in the coordination and collaboration of these efforts," stated Mark Johnson, United Way vice president for community initiatives.

"I think it's great that United Way is taking the initiative to ensure our local resource providers are working together to provide services and

Community Important Dates

November 9, 2005
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Success By 6 task force meeting at the Alachua County Library District, Downtown Branch

December 14, 2005
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Campaign Finale & Inspiring Success Award ceremony



United Way Tocqueville Society reception



Tocqueville Society members (from left)
E.T. & Vam York, Charles & Dorothy Duryea



Tocqueville Society members
Paul & Evelyn McKnight



Tocqueville Society member
Bernie Machen



Tocqueville Society members
Eric & Yvette Godet



Tocqueville Society members
Phil & Barbara Emmer

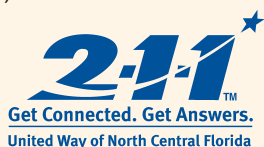
2-1-1 Call Center

Three digits will soon be all it takes North Central Florida residents to find the right health and human service organization. United Way 2-1-1 of North Central Florida builds on the existing partnership of United Way Information & Referral and the award-winning Alachua Crisis Center.

The easy-to-dial, easy-to-remember number is scheduled to be available for the residents of Alachua, Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union counties in November 2005.

In 2000, the Federal Communications Commission designated 2-1-1 as the universal number for information and referral to social services. The service is free of charge and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The caller connects to a trained call specialist, who then refers him or her to the service(s) that will address his or her needs. Individuals interested in giving help will be able to call 2-1-1 to be connected to volunteer and donation opportunities. 2-1-1 of North Central Florida has a current database of over 400 resources and services.

As part of the preparation for the launch of United Way's 2-1-1, Jan Zak and Jennifer Heard attended the Florida Alliance of Information & Referral Specialists (FLAIRS) conference in September. Both took the test at the conference and now join Terry Velazquez as Certified Information & Referral Specialists (CIRS).



On August 31, the fall United Way Tocqueville Society reception was held at UF president Bernie Machen's home. The event was co-sponsored by the University of Florida Charitable Campaign. Twenty-four current and six prospective United Way Tocqueville members attended. Dr. David Pincus from the University of Florida's McKnight Brain Institute spoke about the importance of programs like Success By 6 in our community.

Seven United Way Tocqueville Society members have either renewed or verbally committed to renewing their membership this year, including the three largest investors. In addition, three new families have already joined the society this year.

United Way Tocqueville Society members are individuals or families that give \$10,000 or more to United Way of North Central Florida annually.

Loaned Executives 2005

Each year, businesses dedicated to making a difference in our community loan bright, articulate, and outgoing employees to United Way of North Central Florida to assist with the annual community campaign. This crucial program almost doubles the United Way staff each fall during the fundraising period.

These valued employees (Loaned Executives) function as an extension of our staff, helping manage workplace campaigns. They receive professional training, both formal and on-the-job, and have excellent networking opportunities with community and business leaders. Local organizations support this invaluable program by "loaning" an employee for a 12-week period, or by donating sponsorship dollars.

A successful campaign would not be possible without the help of our loaned executives. This year the United Way of North Central Florida welcomes seven individuals to our team:

Bank of America (sponsored)

Erin Rice
Teri Susi

ElderCare of Alachua County

Jeff Lee

Publix Supermarkets

Kristy Knowles

Shands HealthCare

David Cato

Neerav Jadeja

United Way of North Central Florida

John Malanchuk

TM
what matters.

CAMPAIGN *continued from page 1*

they decide how to best use the available dollars to have the greatest impact.

“Last year we had a record-breaking campaign, but also a higher level of people designating to specific agencies,” said Kimberly Hankerson, vice president of resource development for United Way. “Consequently, the funding available to our Community Care Fund did not increase.”

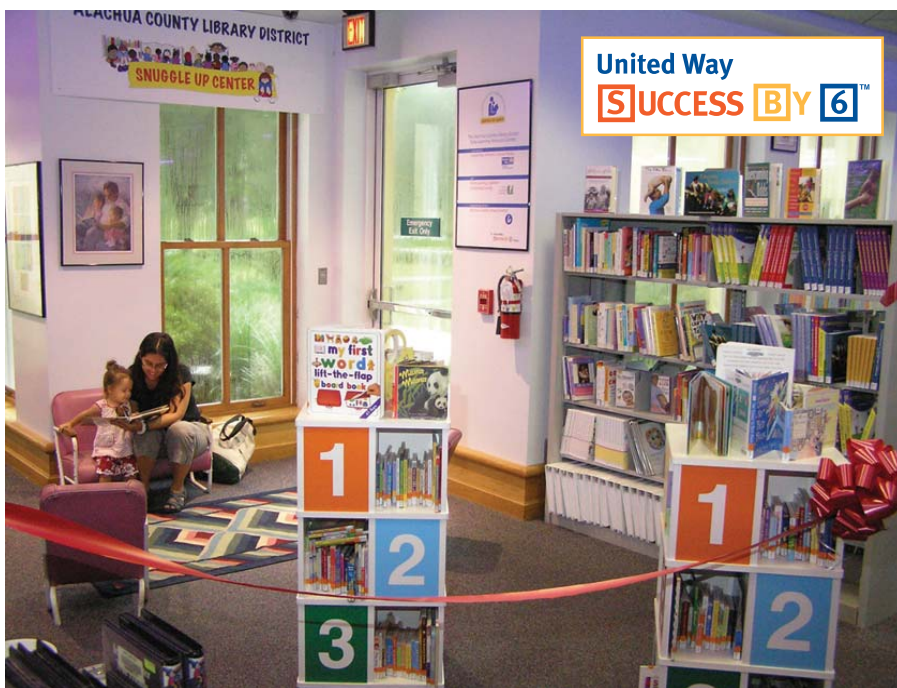
Daniels spoke about the Community Care Fund at the Day of Caring pep rally. “Giving to the Community Care Fund ensures that help goes where help is needed,” he said. “Designate to an agency and you help improve one

aspect of someone’s life; invest in the Community Care Fund, and you can help our community build a network to help that person, their family and everyone in North Central Florida who needs help.”

With the recent hurricanes, the need in the community is stronger than ever. “People that were directly affected by the hurricanes are arriving with nothing, and that is why it is so important to keep our community strong,” said Wright. “That way we can continue to offer services to them.”

This year’s campaign will run through December 10 and will end with a finale luncheon on December 14 to thank those who have supported and helped along the way.

Snuggle Up Centers benefit kids, parents & providers



Mother and child test out the Alachua County District Library’s new Snuggle Up Center.

United Way unveiled its first Success By 6 “success” with the opening of the first of 10 Snuggle Up Centers at the Alachua County Library’s downtown branch.

The centers will provide educational materials on early childhood development for new parents as well as for childcare providers, and offer a bright and cozy environment for children to play or read.

The Snuggle Up Center is a partnership between United Way, the Alachua County Library District and the

Early Learning Coalition of Alachua County. Each library branch should have a center by the end of the year.

The second center will be at the branch in Alachua. The local Alachua Program for Childhood Success teamed up with the United Way to secure \$500 from area churches to set up a center in conjunction with the expansion project at the library branch.

For more information on the Snuggle Up Center, contact United Way at (352) 331-2800 or visit the United Way website at unitedwayNCFL.org.

Community Care Fund partners help Katrina Evacuees

Helping those displaced by Hurricane Katrina is now a local concern.

Celeste, a young mother and evacuee of Hurricane Katrina, can testify to how United Way agencies work together to help those in need. Celeste left her home in New Orleans for Gainesville with her fiancé, 14-month-old baby, little money, but the hope that she would return within a few days.

Hope dwindled, however, as money ran out and her fiancé was called back to the New Orleans police department for search and rescue duty. Celeste, now scared and alone, turned to United Way’s Information and Referral (I&R) for help.

United Way I&R is North Central Florida’s gateway to health and social service agencies and is staffed by professionals certified by the Florida Association of Information and Referral Specialists (FLAIRS).

With one phone call, Celeste found out about help she could get from the Alachua County Housing Authority, Alachua/Bradford Workforce and several United Way Community Care Fund partners including the Volunteer Center and the American Red Cross.

“Celeste is a long way from home, but she frequently remarks at how caring the community is and how grateful she is to everyone who has touched her life through their generosity,” said Jennifer Glymph, executive director of the Volunteer Center.

United Way Information & Referral can be reached at (352) 332-4636



United Way
of North Central Florida
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Gainesville, FL 32607

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2005 United Way Hurricane Response Fund

How can you help the most people for the longest time?

Continue and increase your support of our community through your United Way annual campaign.

The dollars you invested in our community last year through the United Way Community Care Fund have helped to rebuild the lives of people affected by the 2004 hurricanes and will continue to help the more recent victims of 2005 hurricanes.

Without your continued pledge, we cannot be assured that our community will stand ready to meet the storms of the future or recover from the storms of the past.

If you wish to give over and above your United Way gift, we are suggesting two primary options:

Go to www.unitedwayNCFL.org and click on Hurricane Response Fund. One hundred percent of every dollar contributed will be used to fund services that address both the short- and long-term needs of the individuals and families affected by hurricane devastation.



For more information on how to help or get help in North Central Florida call United Way Information & Referral at (352) 332-INFO (4636) if you have questions about services available in our community, are in need of assistance, are interested in volunteering or have questions about donations of goods and services.

Thank you for your continuing support of our community through United Way, and for your efforts toward disaster relief and recovery.

WellFlorida *continued from page 4*

These services help families reduce the factors and situations that place pregnant women and infants in jeopardy of poor outcomes.

Last year alone, the Healthy Start of North Central Florida Coalition brought care and services to 3,015 pregnant women and children in the counties United Way of North Central Florida serves.

Georgine Hill, Community Liaison of Healthy Start of NCF said, "Healthy Start and WellFlorida have many tools and skills to offer this team, and we are very excited about partnering with other organizations to improve the chances of success, in terms of health, families,

and knowledge- for the soon-to-be six-year-olds in our communities. I am optimistic that Success By 6 will work in our community and I am pleased to be a part of it."

For more information about WellFlorida programs, contact Jeff Feller at (352) 313-6500 extension 115 or visit their website at WellFlorida.org.



	Alachua	Bradford	Dixie	Gilchrist	Levy	Union	Florida
Percent of persons below 100% of the FPL (%)	22.7	14.6	19.2	14.1	18.6	13.9	12.5
Percent of persons below 200% of the FPL (%)	41.1	37.3	49.0	43.0	45.0	38.3	31.1
Students on Free/Reduced Lunch (%)	46.9	60.9	64.5	53.5	55.6	46.8	45.4
Teen Birth Rate	22.0	30.8	34.8	30.8	34.5	26.4	26.0
Low Birthweight Rate	87.6	87.9	79.5	84.5	79.1	75.5	82.6
Late or No Prenatal Care (%)	2.9	3.4	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.1	3.2
Infant Death Rate	10.9	9.7	9.6	10.3	7.5	4.1	7.3
Non-elderly (age 0-64) Uninsured (%)	19.3	16.7	22.9	20.5	19.5	20.0	16.8

Note: These numbers are excerpted from WellFlorida's annual county health profiles and do not include footnotes and sources.