

Area United Way breaks record with \$3.5 million

by [Diane Chun](#), The Gainesville Sun

In a year marked by destruction from a tsunami half a world away and a hurricane that swamped the city of New Orleans, the United Way of North Central Florida took time out Wednesday, December 14th to celebrate success. The campaign, which provides funding for dozens of community agencies, set a new record for 2005.

Roland Daniels, campaign chairman, told some 200 supporters gathered for the announcement that \$3,511,295 had been raised, exceeding even the optimistic goal that organizers set when the campaign began. "You can't limit the definition of success just to the number of dollars raised," Daniels said. "The true meaning of success comes from what these financial resources will do to empower our community as we work to identify our most critical needs, build solutions and improve lives." [Read more...](#)

[Read keynote address by Senator Rod Smith](#)

CEO's Corner

Find out more about
**Community Impact
Initiatives:**

[Success By 6
United Way 211](#)

Volunteers Needed

United Way is looking for Community Investment volunteers for the 2006 Allocations process. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Mark Johnson: (352) 333-0846
MJohnson@unitedwayNCFL.org

Community volunteers join with United Way to establish tutoring program

After spending an extra hour in school, you'd expect most students would be bolting for the doors. But students in Alachua are actually enjoying some additional learning time thanks to a special group of people from their community. About fifty children from both Irby and Alachua elementary schools are now benefiting from two hours of tutoring provided weekly through an initiative called Alachua's Program for Childhood Success.

The program is a cooperative venture between local citizens, the schools and the United Way of North Central Florida, which helped pull together all the various individuals, groups and businesses involved. It was an ideal fit for the United Way, which is sponsoring North Central Florida's Success by 6 initiative, a community-wide, collaborative effort to ensure that all children in the community are healthy, safe and prepared to learn when they enter school. "What we did was capitalize on the excitement and enthusiasm that had already been generated within the community for a tutoring program," said Mark Johnson of United Way. "This is a totally volunteer-run, citizen-led initiative." [Read more...](#)

**North Central Florida Dials
for Help**

NEED HELP? Know these numbers

“Getting or giving help is now just three digits away,” states United Way 2-1-1 for North Central Florida director Jan Zak. United Way 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember, three-digit number for accessing non-emergency information about health and human services in the six counties of North Central Florida: Alachua, Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy and Union.

Based on the continued partnership of United Way Information and Referral and the award-winning Alachua County Crisis Center, United Way 2-1-1 offers citizens a confidential and non-judgmental portal to over 400 health and human service organizations within the North Central Florida area. [Read more...](#)

Dial 2-1-1 from land-based telephone networks in Alachua, Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy & Union Counties.

Wireless users please dial (352) 332-INFO (4636).

NOTE: We expect to initiate wireless 2-1-1 service later this year.

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911
For Law Enforcement, Medical, or Fire Emergency

311
During times of disaster for official information from Alachua County Emergency Management - Available only in Alachua County and provided by the Alachua County Office of Emergency Management

211
For non-emergency questions about health and human services - Available in Alachua, Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy and Union Counties and provided by United Way 211 of North Central Florida in partnership with the Alachua County Crisis Center

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