



Contact: Janel Donohue
Rappahannock United Way
540/373-0041 x307

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Rappahannock United Way Celebrates a Good Year!

As Rappahannock United Way starts a new (fiscal) year, the opportunity to reflect on the results of the past 12 months reveals another successful year. Rappahannock United Way (RUW) mobilized record numbers of individuals, groups and businesses in our community to GIVE, ADVOCATE and VOLUNTEER to improve the lives of all.

RUW accomplishes its mission in large part by investing money in local health and human services that make a difference in the areas of education, income and health.

RUW just announced its new grants and distributions to partner agencies for the upcoming year. A critical part of the application process for partner agencies this year was the reporting of results for programs funded in the previous year.

Once again citizen volunteers, 44 in total, came together to review and evaluate the governance, financial health and impact of agency programs on the community.

Based on the deliberations of the Citizen Review volunteers, the RUW Board of Directors approved grants and distributions to 60 programs with 32 partner agencies to total \$1,670,368. Funds awarded are comprised of both donor designations and the Community Care Fund.

“Each program funded by Rappahannock United Way was required to present clear and measurable results for our community over the past year,” explained Ana Chichester, Chair of the Grants and Technical Assistance Committee. “We were excited to see the impact United Way funds have had in all our focus areas of education, income and health for those in most need.”

RUW is working year round to advance the common good by focusing on education, income and health. These are the building blocks for a good life – a quality education that leads to a stable job, enough income to support a family through retirement, and good health.

2009/2010 Results Include:

Education

2,437 children from low income families attended quality after school programs

147 adults with developmental disabilities participated in skill development and functional academics

16,875 children participated in personal development and character building programs

394 children experienced the positive effects of being matched with adult mentors

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Income

614 low income workers received free tax preparation and financial education services

786 individuals received job training and developed employment skills

10,370 families received financial assistance and counseling

3,253 families received free legal services to secure child and spousal support

903 individuals were provided with emergency shelter, including victims of domestic violence

Health

72,575 low income households received food assistance and nutrition services

585 families received services to assist with parenting - including adoption and foster care

171 individuals with developmental disabilities received free dental care

293 adults and children received free hospice support services

3,644 individuals with mental health needs received free professional counseling services

Rappahannock United Way invites everyone to be a part of the change.

“Together, united, we can inspire hope and create opportunities for a better tomorrow.” Said Janel S. Donohue, RUW President,” As partners, working together, we can make more of a difference than any one of us working alone.”

By giving financially, advocating support and volunteering time for something you believe in.

Give

- More than **250** local organizations ran workplace giving campaigns in 2009, which helped us raise over **\$1.9 million dollars** to support the citizens of the Greater Fredericksburg Region
- Local Government and school employees pledged **\$276,711** to support local charities through the 2009 Local Government Campaign in which RUW is the fiscal agent
- **3,972** federal and military employees from Quantico, Dahlgren, Fort A.P. Hill and surrounding federal agencies pledged **\$1,157,586** to support local, state, national, and international charities in the Combined Federal Campaign
- **\$124,000** from generous donors and matching funds from Doris Buffett support the Barbara C. Terry Emergency Assistance Fund. Funds are used to support middle income working households facing serious financial difficulties to meet their basic needs of housing, utilities and transportation. Last year almost 200 individuals from 77 households were assisted, many of them avoiding foreclosure of their homes as a result

Advocate

- **6,712** individuals received information about 2-1-1 Virginia helpline – the statewide information and referral service which brings an end to confusing and frustrating searches for information
- **4,856** calls were made to 2-1-1 Virginia from the Greater Fredericksburg area
- **\$14,000** saved in prescription costs through RUW’s partnership with and promotion of FamilyWize prescription discount cards

Volunteer

- **16,906** individuals engaged in volunteer service
- **424,601** hours of service were volunteered with area nonprofits
- **\$8,993,049** worth of volunteer time invested in our community
- **120** nonprofit agencies listing opportunities through the Volunteer Website
- **30** local businesses with corporate volunteer programs
- **12** volunteer training events organized, training **157** individuals
- **3** Days of Caring events organized, completing **85** community projects

Everyone has the opportunity to be a partner for change – nonprofits, businesses, groups and individuals. That's what it means to LIVE UNITED.

Visit our website to find out how you can LIVE UNITED – www.rappahannockunitedway.org

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