

Community focus

Spring 2013

**Marshfield Area
United Way**

www.marshfieldareaunitedway.org



2013 Marshfield Area United Way Campaign Drive Chairs Announced

Without the help of the many volunteers that assist Marshfield Area United Way throughout the year, United Way could not successfully execute the many initiatives, events, and strategies that help improve the quality of life in Marshfield and the surrounding area. From the volunteers that help with the annual backpack and school supply drive and events, such as, Make A Difference Day to the many individuals that serve on the numerous United Way committees, volunteers are the lifeline of this organization.

Two of the most important volunteers United Way recruits every year are the Campaign Drive Chairs. Every year Campaign Drive Chairs take on the responsibility of steering the annual campaign and creating overall awareness about the work of Marshfield Area United Way. Dan and Sharon Helwig will do just that, this fall.

Dan and Sharon are long-time residents of Marshfield. They have been married for forty years, have three grown sons, two grandsons and a third grandchild on the way. Both Dan and Sharon are active members in the community.

Dan, former Board President and board member for MACCI, is a current member of the Marshfield Rotary Club and the Elks Club. Sharon currently serves as a board member for MACCI, sits on the Board of Review for the City of Marshfield, and is the State and local Director for the Wisconsin Realtor's Association & Central Wisconsin Board of Realtors & MLS. They are both members of Christ Lutheran Church, the Marshfield Tiger Booster Club and the Tiger Hockey Blue Line Club.



When asked about taking on the duties of this fall's United Way Campaign the Helwig's expressed that they are both honored and looking forward to **Continued page 2...**

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Sign-up For '5K for United Way' Now

What: 5K for United Way
When: Saturday, July 13th
Where: Griese Park
1001 29th Street
Marshfield, WI

Schedule:
7:00-8:30 AM Registration and Packet pick-up
9:00 AM Runners Start
9:10 AM Walkers Start
10:15 AM awards

- Entry-Fee:**
- \$20 ages 12+ if registered before 06/28/2013
 - \$25 ages 12+ after 06/28/2013
 - \$5 ages 6-11
 - Free ages 0-5

This July, Marshfield Area United Way will be holding the first-ever '5K for United Way' Run/Walk. The run/walk will be on Saturday, July 13, 2013, at Griese Park. Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. with runners starting at 9:00 a.m. and walkers beginning ten minutes after. The race will be timed and awards will be given to first through third place finishers in six different age groups. **Continued page 4...**



5K for United Way

5k Run/Walk

July 13, 2013

Marshfield, WI

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Marshfield Area United Way Service Area:

Arpin

Auburndale

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Greenwood

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Marshfield

Neillsville

Pittsville

Spencer

Stratford

Tax Assistance Volunteers Have Busy Season

Every February through April for the past five years, local volunteers have given much of their time to help individuals prepare their income taxes, and every year, the volunteers have continued to increase the number of people they are helping. The volunteers are trained to provide the tax preparation services through AARP Tax Aide training. The tax preparation assistance is available to anyone with an annual gross income under \$58,000.

This tax season, volunteers prepared and e-filed 583 State Income taxes and 568 Federal Income taxes. Additionally, they filed fourteen paper returns and submitted seven amendments. The volunteers also fielded approximately 140 questions and answers.

Having this free service available in our community can make a world of difference to the individuals who qualify for the tax help. The tax preparation service helps low- to moderate-income taxpayers have more discretionary income for everyday essentials, such as food and housing, by assisting with tax services and ensuring they receive applicable tax credits and deductions.



Utilize United Way's 2-1-1 To Connect With Community Resources

Sometimes things happen to us in life unexpectedly, and sometimes, these unexpected surprises can bring joy and happiness into our lives. Unfortunately though, this certainly isn't always the case. It seems that more often than not, surprises can cause more harm than good, quickly adding to the stress and worry in our lives.

Events like these may include unexpected car trouble or medical bills that leave you struggling to make ends meet. Or, maybe an elderly parent falls ill and is no longer able to care for him or herself, leaving you to figure out how to care for your parent, while maintaining full-time employment. These are just a few examples of how one isolated incident can exacerbate our already busy, stressful lives. Don't face these problems on your own. There are services available to help people in many, various ways and United Way's 2-1-1 connects people to these resources.

United Way's 2-1-1 online information database is full of community resources available right at your fingertips. Simply log-on to www.getconnected.org and click on 'Information Database.' From there, you are able to search for resources by category, keyword, or agency. The database also allows you to enter your zip code to search for resources nearest to your home.

For those without internet access, 2-1-1 is also a phone number you can dial to get information on community resources. Referral specialists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days

United Way's 

2-1-1™

Get Connected. Get Answers.

a week to help with information and resources, such as: housing matters, food, child care services, counseling, literacy classes, health care, substance abuse treatment, family services, Veteran's services, suicide prevention, energy assistance, job training, senior services, volunteer opportunities, and much more.

United Way's 2-1-1 is also as much about giving help as it is getting help. If you or your organization provides services in your community, please visit getconnected.org to verify your organization is listed with 2-1-1. If not, please call 2-1-1 with your information. Callers not able to reach 2-1-1 due to your telephone or cell phone carrier can use the toll-free number (877-384-5565) to connect to community resources.

There are posters and informational rack cards available. Please contact United Way at 715-384-9992 or email unitedway@tznet.com if you would like to have any of the informational items for your business or organization.

2013 Drive Chair Announcement continued...

the opportunity to give back to the community. “We have been so blessed to have a healthy family and for everything else we’ve been given in life, it is only right that we share with those going through a difficult time or less fortunate than we are,” said Sharon.

During their time as Campaign Drive Chairs, the Helwigs hope to raise awareness about the issues residents in our community are facing; “Our community is not totally unlike others around the country—the economy has caused job loss or cuts in hours for some resulting in loss of benefits, like health insurance, leaving individuals and families scrambling to make ends meet. The instances of families living out of vehicles and knowing there are children and elderly people going to bed hungry—sometimes we think there are only hungry people in third-world countries when, in fact, it’s happening to our own families, friends and neighbors right here in Marshfield and the surrounding area.”

Dan and Sharon will also advocate to get

the community more involved; “If people aren’t financially able to give, perhaps they could give an hour of their time occasionally (or on a regular basis) to give back to the community.”

The Helwigs are looking forward to their time as Campaign Drive Chairs and highlighting Marshfield Area United Way’s significant role in the community; “United Way gives hope to those who feel there is none for a brighter and better tomorrow. Giving to United Way is a very simple way (through one destination of giving) to reach out through multiple programs for those who need it most.”

Join the Helwigs and Marshfield Area United Way in creating long-lasting change in our community. Find out how to become involved and be a part of the change, visit marshfieldareaunitedway.org or contact Marshfield Area United Way at 715-384-9992.

Give. Advocate. Volunteer. LIVE UNITED.

Share Your Garden’s Greens

This summer, please keep in mind area food pantries when your gardens are ripe with fresh produce. If you are able, please consider planting an extra plant or two for the food pantry. If your gardens are already planted for the season, please consider donating any excess produce you may harvest or any produce you may not use before it wastes. Lastly, if you have any favorite, simple recipes to go along with the produce, please feel free to provide the recipe along with the food donation. To find food pantries in your area, please call 2-1-1 or visit www.getconnected211.org.

Children’s Book Swap Planned For United Way Day of Action

JOIN US FOR UNITED WAY’S
DAY OF ACTION!!

WHAT: CHILDREN’S BOOK SWAP

WHEN: JUNE 21, 2013

TIME: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

WHERE: MARSHFIELD MALL

(outside of Bath and BodyWorks)

June 21st is United Way’s Day of Action. All across the globe, individuals will engage in projects that advance United Way’s priorities of Education, Income and Health. Locally, our United Way will be hosting a Children’s Book Swap. There is conclusive research about the importance of reading to babies and young children for language development as well as the importance of reading proficiently to facilitate school success. To encourage reading we will be hosting a Children’s Book Swap on Friday, June 21st from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Marshfield Mall outside of Bath and Body Works. Families are encouraged to bring books that they are done reading and exchange them for new ones. For families whose children may be older, but still have children’s books, we would welcome your

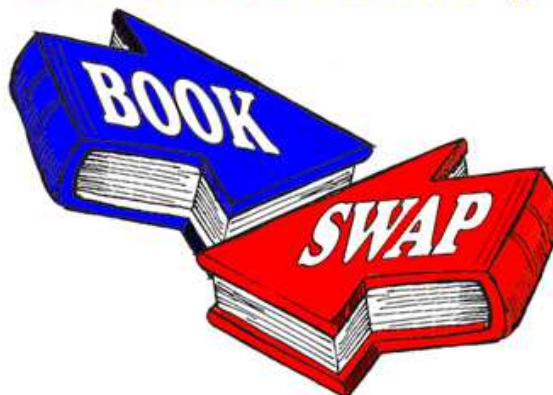
donation of gently used kid’s books for the event. As we join in the national Day of Action, we will be joining together with several hundred thousand individuals and be reminded that we are all connected and interdependent,

and when we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all. That’s what it means to LIVE UNITED.



By Paula Jero
Executive Director

CHILDREN’S



Get Connected with Marshfield Area United Way



LIVE UNITED



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U.S. POSTAGE

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Return Service Requested

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www.marshfieldareaunitedway.org

Marshfield Area United Way's mission is to increase our community's capacity to care for one another.



Give an hour. Give a Saturday. Lend your muscle. Share your talents. Visit United Way's web site and click Volunteer to find opportunities, events and more.



Need Help? Have questions about community programs and services? United Way's 2-1-1 is where you start. 2-1-1 is confidential and available 24/7 Dial 2-1-1 or visit getconnected211.org

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Making An Impact...

We are currently serving meals to a Marshfield couple who are both challenged with health concerns due to illness and falls. They are both 78 years old and living in their home of 50+ years. Meals were started for the husband when his wife was injured in a fall and ended up in the nursing home following surgery. The husband walks with a walker and manages very slowly. He was very dependent on his wife for meals and personal care. Recently, the wife was released from the nursing home, and now we are serving both of them. With meal assistance and a personal care worker visiting regularly, they seem to be managing comfortably in their own home.

The mission of Home Delivered Meals is to improve the health and well-being of home-bound individuals in the Marshfield community through the delivery of hot, nutritious meals.



5K continued...

All participants twelve and up registered by June 28th are guaranteed to receive a '5K for United Way' t-shirt on the day of the event. The rest will be first come, first serve.

Visit our website for more information and for registration information. Payment can be mailed with registration to: PO Box 771, Marshfield, WI, 54449, or paid at the United Way office at 156 S Central Avenue. Online registration is also available online at Active.com. Registration and payment must be received prior to the June 28, 2013, deadline to receive the discounted rate. All registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.