



**HOW TO  
LIVE UNITED:  
JOIN HANDS.  
OPEN YOUR HEART.  
LEND YOUR MUSCLE.  
FIND YOUR VOICE.  
GIVE 10% GIVE 100%  
GIVE 110%  
GIVE AN HOUR.  
GIVE A SATURDAY.  
THINK OF WE BEFORE ME.  
REACH OUT A HAND TO ONE AND  
INFLUENCE  
THE CONDITION OF ALL.  
GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.  
LIVE UNITED.**

## Community Investment Report

November 2009

### ADVOCATE

"I think it's important to advocate for United Way. United Way needs people who are passionate about Education, Income and Health to make some noise."

- Pat Marin,  
First Bristol  
Federal Credit Union



### Anyone can champion a cause.

Whether you're speaking out to improve education, income and health, reaching out to members of Congress, or wearing the LIVE UNITED shirt to show your support, you can help inspire hope and create opportunities for a better tomorrow. So go ahead and advocate in a LIVE UNITED world. Do it in public. Be visible. Be loud.

### What does it mean to advocate?

You can make change happen with your voice. It's a power that we all have. It's standing up for others and what you believe in your heart. It can be championing a cause. Or, simply not being silent. United Way of West Central Connecticut invites you to be part of the change by speaking up to influence the condition of all.

### Who is an advocate? YOU are an advocate.

We need your voice, your passion and above all, your willingness to help, in order to improve the lives of those around us by sharing your United Way experience with others. Whether you're getting informed by signing up for our newsletter or spreading the word through your own network of friends and family, this is the platform to advocate for the common good in the communities in which we work and live.

### *United Way needs people like you to join the movement.*

Want to get involved but don't know where to start?  
Become a fan of United Way of West Central Connecticut  
on Facebook and you'll get updates and opportunities to  
Live United.

GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

VOLUNTEER.

### ***Advancing the Common Good: Creating Opportunities for a Better Life for All***

Everyone deserves opportunities to have a good life: a quality education that leads to a stable job, enough income to support a family through retirement, and good health.

That's why United Way's work is focused on the building blocks for a good life:

#### ■ *Education – Helping Children and Youth Achieve Their Potential*

United Way of West Central Connecticut is working to ensure that families are actively engaged with their children, children are prepared for success in kindergarten, youth demonstrate age-appropriate skills, and youth become engaged in their community through increased volunteerism. These goals are central to our mission to improve education.

#### ■ *Income – Promoting Financial Stability and Independence*

The community and family issues that stem from the economic and financial pressures facing individuals and their families are growing increasingly complex and more difficult to address. United Way of West Central Connecticut is helping lower-income individuals and families maximize their income, build savings and gain assets. Therefore, United Way is working on the following outcomes - adults improve/develop life skills necessary for self-sufficiency and families and individuals work toward self-sufficiency by meeting basic needs.

#### ■ *Health – Improving People's Health*

In order to improve the health of children and adults we need to work together and become more aware of the factors that impact health throughout our lifespan. Therefore, the United Way of West Central Connecticut, is helping to make sure that people in physical or emotional distress access timely services resulting in improvement in functioning and that older, isolated adults access services to increase their connection to their communities.

**Advancing the common good is less about helping one person at a time and more about changing systems to help all of us. We are all connected and interdependent. We all win when a child succeeds in school, when families are financially stable, when people are healthy.**

**United Way's goal is to create long-lasting changes by addressing the underlying causes of these problems. Living united means being a part of the change. It takes everyone in the community working together to create a brighter future. So please join our movement - Live United today!**

**BRISTOL ◆ BURLINGTON ◆ PLAINVILLE ◆ PLYMOUTH**

### Calling all Young Professionals

*Want to meet other local young professionals in your area? Want to do a bit of networking while having fun? Want to find volunteer opportunities that help make your community a better place? Then we want you!*

*The Young Professionals for United Way is currently recruiting new members who are between 21 and 35 years old and are interested in networking and volunteer opportunities. Call Colleen at (860) 582-9559 ext. 406 to get involved today!*

For more information:

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