

A Message from the Chair...

We are all aware the economic times are becoming more challenging every year and that many of our friends and family are facing reduced income or unemployment. Therefore it is important that those of us with jobs, consistent income and the means, lend a helping hand and support those folks who are in times of need. Your willingness to help could mean the difference of whether someone can feed their family, pay an electric bill, receive therapy for their child with disabilities, seek shelter from an abusive spouse or provide basic necessities. This is a very small list of the services that the United Way agencies provide.

Your support of our United Way campaign will make a big difference in helping fund agencies listed in the enclosed brochure. The United Way agencies help provide many services to people in need in our community and it will be the best investment that you and your employees can make in our community.

So for all of us in Audrain County, I ask that you consider a generous gift to the 2015 campaign.

You can be the difference in changing a life and giving someone hope.

I thank you for your consideration and support.

Jennifer Prior
2015 United Way Campaign Chair

Help us reach our
goal of

\$110,000

\$2,000,000

The United Way of Audrain County is grateful for our generous and caring community, and the fiscal responsibility of the board of directors. Since 2000, we have distributed approximately \$2,000,000 of your donated dollars to health and human service agencies serving Audrain County residents. During that time, thousands of lives have been forever changed and improved.

But we still have work to do.

FACTS

- The high school drop out rate for Audrain County (2013) was 4.4% while the state average was 2.5%. Births to mothers with less than 12 yrs of education for Audrain was 27.9% while the state average was 14.4%.
- Children of women incarcerated at the Vandalia prison are more likely to fall into delinquency if contact with the parent is not maintained.
- Audrain County ranked 5th highest in the state for domestic violence incidents per capita in 2012.
- There were 573 incidents of child abuse and neglect reported in Audrain County in 2014. This was a considerable rise from 2013.
- One in five families in Audrain County deal with food insecurity on a daily basis.
- Rainbow House handled 34 forensic interviews with Audrain County children suspected of experiencing sexual or severe physical abuse last year.

The United Way of Audrain County



We need your help to provide vital support to these 17 funded agencies.

- **St. Joseph Early Learning Center**
573.492.6283
Provides a safe and loving environment for 30 infant to preschool age children.
- **Mexico Area YMCA**
573.581.1540
Programs promote a healthy mind and body. Provides scholarships for low-income children.
- **AHD—Medical Assistance Program**
573.581.1332
Assisting non- or under-insured adults with medical needs—primarily medications.
- **Children's Therapy and Early Education School**
573.581.2793
Provides 7 essential services for children with developmental disabilities.
- **Mexico Senior Center**
573.581.7743
By delivering meals to homebound elderly, the Senior Center allows seniors to stay in their home longer. Last year, they served over 50,500 meals.
- **The Help Center**
573.581.3238
Feeding low-income families and individuals and also operates a thrift store with a minimal charge for items.
- **Rainbow House**
573.474.6600
Performs forensic interviews with court advocacy, and provides counseling and other resources for sexually and severely abused children.
- **Agape House of Vandalia**
573.249.4519
Affordable accommodations for families visiting inmates at the Vandalia Prison.
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters**
573.874.3677
Three main goals: avoid risky behavior; achieve educational success; & have higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships.
- **American Red Cross**
573.635.1132
Provides disaster relief, emergency military contact, first aid & CPR training, and sponsors blood drives.
- **Boy Scouts of America**
573.493.2561
Teaching leadership skills to youth.
- **A+ for Mexico Education**
P.O. Box 403 • Mexico, MO
In 2014, teachers were awarded approx. \$41,940 in grants.
- **Audrain 4-H Special Programs**
573.581.3231
Supports the Rug Rats 4-H Club. Group meets weekly to work on community involvement, developing life skills, and developing attitudes that will help them become productive members of society.
- **Audrain Crisis Intervention Service**
573.581.3835
24-hour hotline, shelter, court advocacy, support groups, and other resources are available for victims of domestic and sexual violence.
- **Audrain County Literacy Program**
573.975.7509
Tutors for adult reading and English as a second language.
- **CMCA Family Development Program**
573.443.8706
Assists families in working toward self-sufficiency. Assists parents in changing unhealthy habits and preventing abuse.
- **Northeast Community Service Agency**
573.582.7440
Arranges community service for non-violent offenders.

LIVE UNITED



United Way of Audrain County

222 S. Jefferson
Mexico, MO 65265
mauw@swbell.net
www.unitedwayofaudrainco.org