



# Matagorda County United Way **REACHING OUT**

June 2004

Volume 8, Number 2

**"What Matters"**

**"Real Lives. Real Impact."**

## **Community Impact – UW's Not just a fundraiser**

So many people view United Ways as only a fundraiser and distributor of funds. As United Ways as a whole move more towards Community Impact a few changes may be felt in our local community. The Fund Distribution committees (community volunteers) will move more towards program funding as opposed to Agency funding, meaning dollars are designated to certain services/programs instead of openly awarded. The resources that become available to Communities through community impact become so vast that it dwarfs the annual community campaign and accomplishes so much more to the benefit of people in our community. The larger funding streams (foundations, governmental, etc) are moving more towards funding collaborative efforts than individual programs. Community Impact models help to make grass root changes instead of Band-Aids for the ills of our Community. MCUW's current initiatives include: Helping children succeed, fostering independence for seniors, increasing self-sufficiency, strengthening families, and promoting health and wellness. Community Impact also allows more collaborations with groups outside the funded agency status that has past presided. Matagorda County United Way is currently involved in several local collaboratives, including: **Matagorda County Health Care Coalition (MCHC)**-Collaboration with Matagorda County Hospital District, Matagorda County United Way, MEHOP, Palacios Medical Center, Texana MHMR, & The Trull Foundation; **Literacy Advisory Board-First Book-Matagorda (LAB)** - collaboration between Bay City Day Care, Bay City Library, Blessing Library, Boys & Girls Club-Palacios, First Book, Head Start-Bay City, Head Start-Palacios, Literacy Volunteers of America, Matagorda County United Way, MEHOP, Palacios Library, & Sargent VFW; **Youth Advisory Board** - collaborative involving: area youth, Bay City Housing Authority, Bay City ISD, First Prosperity Bank, Matagorda County United Way, The WorkSource, & Van Vleck ISD ; **Interagency Community Resource Coordination Group for Families (CRCGF)** has a membership of more than 100 local social service non-profits, federal, & state agencies, **Matagorda Interfaith Goodwill Humanitarian Team (MIGHT)** - includes local churches, faith-based organizations, & local non-profit social service organizations; **Texas Community Futures Forum-2004** - includes local community leaders; **HeadStart Child Development Council**-includes local social service organizations & medical teams; & **Emergency Food & Shelter Board (EFSP)** - includes representation from American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, the County Judge, 2 Government agency representatives, Homeless representative, Matagorda County United Way, Ministerial Alliance, & Salvation Army; among other Community wide efforts.

**“United  
Way’s not  
just a  
fundraiser -  
Collaborativ  
es &  
Coalitions  
are key”**

For information on any of the above organizations please contact Kim at the United Way office at 979-245-5852.

---

## **Leave A Legacy Endowment**

All memorial, commemorative, or honorary gifts are placed in a permanent endowment to help the continuation of Matagorda County United Way’s efforts to help the citizens of Matagorda County.

### **Kenneth Bryant Memorial Gift**

A Memorial gift was  
received in the name of  
Kenneth Bryant from  
Mr. Rick Miller. Thank you.

---

**Be the change you want to see in the world...Mahatma Ghandi**

---

## **WISH LIST**

A committed volunteer to implement a Women’s Initiative for Matagorda County.

A literacy volunteer to go out in the community at least once monthly to read to children and distribute books to them.

Bookshelves to house literacy program books for community children.

**"Volunteers  
are not paid  
- not  
because  
they are  
worthless,  
but because  
they are  
priceless."  
-unknown**

**"United Way  
Doubling  
your money"**

# The President's Volunteer Service Awards

Matagorda County United Way was recently accepted as a certifying organization for the Presidential service awards program. MCUW certified eleven volunteers for an award for 2003. You can track volunteer hours and find out more about the awards at the following site. Remember to count up hours spent on organizing campaign x each campaign volunteer, plus food drives, home repairs, school supply drives, etc. I would love to have all the hours in and certificates ordered in order to give these awards out at the Volunteer luncheon early next year.

<https://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/>



**We could learn a lot from crayons:  
some are sharp, some are pretty,  
some are dull, some have weird names,  
and all are different colors....but  
they all exist very nicely in the same box.**

## Office Happenings



**Literacy Book-Give-a-way** - As collaboration with First Book-Matagorda, we recently received more than 2500 books for our Kids Korner Literacy Program. **Any child** can come into the United Way office at 2417 Avenue G and receive a free book for their very own.

They are eligible for one book a month as long as supplies last. We are looking for a volunteer to go at least one day a month to area day cares, housing authority, schools, and read to the kids and distribute books. If you are interested please give Kim a call at 979-245-5852.

**Second Quarter Allocation payments** have been distributed to the 20 non-profit Community Care agencies approved for funding in 2004. In addition to these 20 non-profits, designations have been accepted and sent for 27 other non-profit organizations through the MCUW annual campaign.



**HELPLINE** - Our in-house Information & Referral service averages 9000 calls annually. Are your parents having difficulty paying for prescription drugs? Would you like to volunteer your time for a worthy cause? For the most up to date local social service information give us a call or email at [mcuw@skycasters.net](mailto:mcuw@skycasters.net)

**Thank you** all for your support and encouragement. Without your help needed services for area citizens would not be possible.

**Matagorda County  
United Way  
2417 Ave G  
P.O. Box 972  
Bay City, TX 77404**

**Phone:  
(979) 245-5852**

**Fax:  
(979) 244-1541**

**E-mail:  
[mcuw@skycasters.net](mailto:mcuw@skycasters.net)**

**We're on the Web!  
[www.man-net.net](http://www.man-net.net)**

You can also help United Way by forwarding the above newsletter to your acquaintances.