



# REACHING OUT

Volume 7 Issue 1

Matagorda County United Way

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## Matagorda County United Way Empowerment Lab & Kids Korner

Matagorda County United Way is currently in the process of setting up an "Empowerment Lab" in the United Way building at 2417 Avenue G. We envision a room with 7 or 8 computers, available to clients and the general public. This room will be available for:

1. Resume writing
2. Educational software
3. Computer classes
4. SAT/ACT practice sessions

Volunteers from Equistar Chemical & Zachry Construction have offered to assist in the Lab set-up. Matagorda County Community Network has donated a new computer. Another computer donated by LCRA Foundation will be relocated to the lab. A "Kid's Korner" will also be available for clients with children. "Kids Korner" will feature a reading center, possibly a Lego table and availability of other quiet games for children.

We are still seeking additional computers, children's books, educational software, Typing software, desk chairs, TV/VCR, etc.

To help sponsor the Empowerment Lab or Kid's Korner call 245-5852.

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## Community Access Program Grant

Bi-County Community Access Program (BCAP) is a coalition of medical, social, and faith based service providers representing Brazoria and Matagorda Counties. BCAP is interested in developing a proposal for a Community Access Program grant through the US Bureau of Primary Healthcare. We would like to seek \$1 million to improve access to health care for the uninsured and underserved residents of this region. Your support and participation in this project would result in improvements in:

- \*Chronic Disease Management and Prevention
- \*Integration of care and services among medical, social and faith-based agencies
- \*Increased enrollment in medical and social services for those who are eligible but have not yet enrolled
- \*Transportation access to healthcare providers
- \*Pharmaceutical availability

Other Counties with this type of collaboration have not only seen improvements in the above mentioned services, but also an increase in jobs as well as grant funds returning to their counties.

Information about the Community Access Program Grant process can be found on the Bureau of Primary Health Care website at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/cap/Default.htm>

Two web addresses showing a little more about a Community Access Project are as follows. [www.jesstree.org](http://www.jesstree.org) is the address for the Galveston safety net access program & [www.gatewaytocare.org](http://www.gatewaytocare.org) is the location for the Harris County Access Program.

For more information or to join the Steering Committee call Kim at the United Way office at (979) 245-5852.

*Thank You to all our Donors, Volunteers, and Agencies!!!*



MCUW AGENCIES	# CLIENTS LAST FISCAL YEAR	% BUDGET FROM UW for 2001	DOLLARS RECEIVED FROM UW & GRANTS RECEIVED USING UW FUNDING AS A MATCH	% of BUDGET FROM UW & GRANTS MATCHED BY UW FUNDS
American Red Cross-Bay City Chapter	17000	45%	\$49,500	51%
Assoc. for Retarded Citizens	69	48%	\$31,000	48%
Bay City Day Care	400 daily	7%	\$32,500	10%
Salvation Army Food Pantry	9000	32%	\$4,500	32%
Boy Scouts-Matagorda County	1132	1%	\$10,000	1%
Boys & Girls Club-Palacios	369	19%	\$46,000	95%
Caring & Sharing Food Pantry	10,332	26%	\$12,000	53%
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)	746	16%	\$93,900	99%
Council on Substance Abuse	1321	3%	\$473,454	99%
DARE-BCISD	2,000	3%	\$1,000	3%
DARE-TISD	600	3%	\$1,000	3%
Economic Actions Committee	2043	8%	\$45,617	12%
4-H Marine---SeaMasters	142	25%	\$1,000	25%
Friends of Elder Citizens	425 daily meals	9%	\$423,000	76%
Girl Scouts-MC	224	1%	\$9,500	1%
Kids in Distress	25	79%	\$11,695	84%
Literacy Volunteers of America	62	30%	\$34,500	100%
Matagorda County United Way HELPLINE	9000	100%	\$30,000	100%
Matagorda Episcopal Hospital Outreach Program (MEHOP)	2657	6%	\$68,862	24%
Rainbow Land Day Care	70 daily	23%	\$55,580	100%
Salvation Army - Bay City	1228	10%	\$29,757	25%
Teen Court	1685	19%	\$85,000	100%
Women's Crisis Center	1600	6%	\$510,793	91%
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$2,060,158</b>	

## HAPPENINGS at the Matagorda County United Way Office

MCUW continues to work on several collaborative events, committees, advisory boards, and projects.

- **BCAP**—By-County Community Access Program. See related article on page 1.
- **Boost America** — About 8 Child Safety Booster Seats are still available for low-income families with children weighing 40-80 pounds. For more information please call 245-5852 or come by the MCUW office at 2417 Avenue G in Bay City.
- **Campaign** — The 2003-2004 Campaign activities are in the planning stages. Currently seeking Committee members as well as Campaign chairmen as well as individuals to help contact businesses of the County who are not currently permitting United Way employee campaigns.
- **Empowerment Lab** — See related article on page 1.
- **First Book Organization**— See related article on page 2.
- **Grant Collaborations**—We continue to collaborate with Community organizations in grant searches, writing proposals, support letters, etc. If these succeed it will bring outside dollars back into the County for much needed services.

• **Interagency CRCGF Council**—

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 9:00 am at the Railroad Depot. Time is set aside monthly actually helping citizens of the County by active Case Management to find services needed for individuals. Please call 245-5852 to be added to the mail list.

• **Kids Korner**— See related article on page 1.

• **Options Program**—Registration forms are available at the MCUW office for the Options for Independent Living program. This program can sometimes help with small home repairs, shower chairs, medication, etc. These services are provided for seniors living on a limited budget.

• **Web Presence**—We have been working closely with the Matagorda Area Network volunteers to get a web presence not only for MCUW but also for the other social service organizations in the County. Our site is now available at [www.manet.org](http://www.manet.org) then select social services then united way. Links to UW agencies are posted there as well as County statistics and statistics for each funded organization.

—**HELPLINE**—

MCUW Information & Referral service is not only an information source. We are doing a lot more case management. Which means helping seniors and disabled fill out government forms, CHIP enrollment forms, and prescription enrollment forms, as well as researching other services and alternatives. The United Way HELPLINE gets on average 250-300 calls or walk-ins monthly.

**Recent HELPLINE**

**success stories:**

A Bay City resident is getting a much needed wheel chair ramp, thanks to our friends on the United Way committee at Equistar Chemical.

A wheel chair ramp is also in the works for a 72 year-old Palacios senior who was recently released from Methodist Hospital. This ramp is being made possible by Zachry employees from Wadsworth and other community volunteers. Funds made possible through the United Way employee matching funds.

Officer Juan Delgado, a Bay City Police Officers who has been hospitalized for several months with a debilitating disease, is also the recipient of a wheel chair thanks to Zachry-Old Ocean employees UW matching funds and volunteers from Zachry and Bay City Police Dept..

**Your Gift helps citizens of Matagorda County!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employed by \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alternate phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes! I want to Help with the 2003-2004 Campaign!**

My one time donation is \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I wish to Leave a Legacy by making a Memorial gift in the name of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I wish to Leave a Legacy by making an Honorary gift in the name of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I wish to Leave a Legacy by making a Commemorative gift in the name of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I wish to donate stock or other property (Please contact me.) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Gifts to Matagorda County United Way are 100% tax-deductible. Memorial, Honorary, and Commemorative gifts will be placed in our Leave a Legacy Endowment. Contact your local office for further details.)

**R. R. Traylor Memorial Gift**

A Memorial gift was received in the name of R. R. Traylor from Carl & Catherine Anderson.  
Thank you.

*All memorial 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. See the pledge form on page 4 to make other memorial, commemorative, or honorary gifts.*

**MCUW  
Mission Statement**

**"Meeting the health and human service needs of the Community."**

**Have you remembered us in your will?  
Charitable bequests offer lasting support to United Way and funded agencies throughout our community**

**WISH LIST**

- Computers for the Empowerment Lab.
- Educational Software for all ages for the Empowerment Lab.
- Group or individuals to help organize a 5-K fun run/walk to help raise funds for our 22 funded Community Care Agencies.
- A few volunteers to help with campaign committee.
- Lego table, books, or quiet games for our community Kids Korner.

**Local Support Groups**

*(Call the HELPLINE at 245-5852 for other support group information or to have other support groups listed.)*

**Alcoholics Anonymous Support Group (979) 245-6499**

Meets at 2701 Ave. H in Bay City Mon.-Sat. 12:00 noon and Sunday, Monday, Wed. & Thursday at 8:00 pm.

**Al-Non Support Group (979) 245-6499**

Support group for family members of alcoholics meets at 2701 Ave. H in Bay City Mon. at 8:00 pm.

**American Cancer Society Group (979) 245-3778**

Meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Bay City Service Center in Bay City.

**Caregivers Support Group (979) 241-6863**

Call Ruth Troble at Matagorda County Hospital District for the next luncheon meeting.

**Diabetic Support Group (979) 245-6383**

Matagorda House at the Legacy -500 wing day room- 6:00 pm second Thursday every other month.

**Domestic Violence Support Groups (979) 245-9109**

Bay City domestic violence support group meets at 2805 Peach St. from 6:30-7:30 pm every Thursday.

\*Please contact BJ Wise if you wish to start a support group in Wharton or other areas of the County .

**Grief Support Fellowship (979) 245-3778**

St. Peters Lutheran at 9th & Nichols in Bay City at 6:30 pm the 2nd & 4th Mon. of the Month. (Babysitting is available).

**Military Support Group (979) 245-3056**

St. Peters Lutheran at 9th & Nichols in Bay City at 7:00 pm every Tuesday and 10:00 am every Friday.

## 1st Quarter Donors

Thanks go out to each of the following Employees & Companies.

AEP/CPL	Exxon Mobil	Palacios ISD
Alcoa	Flour Foundation	Phillips Petroleum
Allstate	Frankson Family	Rollins Family
American General	Friends of Eagles #3821	Rusk Family
Barrett Minerals	Gulf Coast Combined	Southwestern Bell Co.
BASF	Federal Campaign	STPNOC
Bay City Gas Company	Health Food Cottage	Texas Industries
Bay City ISD	H.E.B.	Trull Foundation
Bowers, Inc.	Herlin Family	Trull Services
Celanese	IBC Bank	Turner Industries
Centerpoint/Reliant	Interplast	Ultramar Diamond
Energy	Lacks Furniture	Shamrock
Chevron Phillips	Deshotels Family	UPS
Clearwater Loaders, Inc.	Matagorda County	Valero
ConocoPhillips	MC Community Foun.	Wal-Mart
Dow & Dow Design	MC General Hospital	Washington Mutual
Duke Energy	Nelson Family	Wells Fargo
Eckerds	O'Reilly Distribution	Williams Company
El Paso Energy	Payless Shoe Source	Zachry Construction
Equistar Chemical		

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

### 2002 Matagorda County United Way Officers and Board of Directors

**Tim Powell - Chairman**  
**Robert Garcia - 1st Vice President**  
**Willie Rollins - 2nd Vice President**  
**Cindy Carroll - Secretary**  
**Dianne Bowers - Financial Officer**  
**Kim Effenberger - Executive Director**

<b>Emett Alvarez</b>	-	BC Community Dev. Corp.
<b>Dianne Bowers</b>	-	Prosperity Bank
<b>Cindy Carroll</b>	-	Physical Therapist
<b>Simon DeSoto</b>	-	Corp of Engineer
<b>Cheryl Dodd</b>	-	Outrigger Restaurant
<b>Gus Fuentes</b>	-	Equistar Chemical
<b>Robert Garcia</b>	-	Bay City Police Dept.
<b>J. Weldon Gilbert</b>	-	Enterprise Baptist Church
<b>Donnie Horton</b>	-	D's Gifts
<b>Frank Kauffman</b>	-	Equistar Chemical
<b>James Mitchell</b>	-	MC Sheriff's Department
<b>Tim Powell</b>	-	STPNOC
<b>Mike Reddell</b>	-	The Tribune
<b>Bobby Rodriguez</b>	-	Bay City Police Dept.
<b>Willie Rollins</b>	-	Tu-Son Service Co.
<b>Mark Thornton</b>	-	Zachry Construction

Chris Johnson—Internal Operations Advisor

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**Matagorda County United Way**  
 P.O. Box 972  
 2417 Avenue G  
 Bay City, Texas 77404-0972



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 by Kimberly S. Effenberger, Executive Director  
 of Matagorda County United Way

When you have finished with this  
 issue please pass it on to a friend!