

UNITED WAY MATTERS...

News from Roane County United Way

Spring/Summer 2007

Our Mission

To improve the lives of Roane County residents by mobilizing the caring power of its communities

Our Vision

We will build a stronger Roane County by mobilizing our communities to improve people's lives

Contact Us

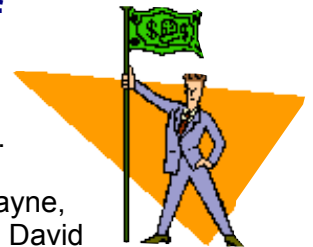
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Board of Directors

Darrell Akins
Ken Beauchamp, Treasurer
Dinia Burnette
Bob Capell,
Kathy Cole
Bobby Davis
Mike Emery
Missy Gallaher
Paul Goldberg
Carol Grametbauer, Secretary
Becky Layne
Mary Ann Owings
Greg Palko, 2nd Vice Chair
Tom Pickel, Chairman
John Sublett
Dirk Van Hoesen

Campaign wraps up at 91% of goal . . .

Roane County United Way's 2006-07 campaign has raised approximately \$328,091—91 percent of our goal of \$360,000. Our Campaign Committee—Barbara and Bob Capell, Kathy Cole, Johnny Griffin, Rebecca Layne, Jim Leitnaker, Mary Ann Owings, Kathy Parks, David Reichle, and Harriet Walker, under the leadership of Tom Pickel—worked hard to make the campaign as successful as possible. We greatly appreciate all of their efforts to maximize support to our member agencies.



Thank you to Local Businesses' support of our Campaign...

United Ways pride themselves in low overhead costs. We want to thank the following businesses who give above and beyond their regular United Way gifts to support the UW campaign effort.

The dollars that are contributed to our Campaign Sponsorship program offset costs associated with fundraising. Thank you to:

BWXT Y12
Bechtel Jacobs LLC
Roane Medical Center
ORNL Credit Union

Citizens National Bank
United Community Bank
K-25 Credit Union



Pump Day helps raise needed funds...

Our 2006 Pump Day, sponsored by Rocky Top Markets on November 9, raised \$2100 for the campaign. Volunteers pumped gas at Rocky Top locations in Kingston, Harriman, Rockwood and at I-40/Hwy. 27, with Rocky Top Markets donating five cents to Roane County United Way for every gallon pumped. Pump Day Coordinator Becky Layne was assisted by Shirley Freeman, Gail Lyke, Karin Cisson, Debbie Harper, and a long list of volunteer pumpers. Our thanks to Rocky Top Markets for their continued support in this annual event and to our volunteers for making it happen!

Clinch River Association of Insurance and Financial Associates makes recent donation to RCUW...

Thank you to the CRAIFA for their recent donation of \$500 to the Roane County United Way. Donations were also made to the YWCA Domestic Violence Program (A United Way funded program) and to the Methodist Medical Center Hospitality House Program. President Scotty Dykes presented the checks at a recent luncheon of the organization.



United Way to continue their support for local Pre K Program...As a result of Governor Bredesen's challenge to Tennessee United Ways in 2006, United Ways across Tennessee have met the challenge and secured match funding for 47 new Pre-k classrooms — exceeding their original goal of 40 additional classrooms. **Roane County United Way** through the collaboration efforts of the United Ways of Metropolitan Nashville and Williamson County, was able to secure funding for **\$60,000 a year over three years** to help support our local Pre K classrooms. We are happy to announce that we will be able to continue this partnership over the next two years.

Allocations Panels commit \$342,000 to community programs and services for 2007 . . .

During the fall of 2006, community volunteers met with agencies to review budgets and program goals. The United Way's Budget and Allocation Committee then reviewed their recommendations before presenting the proposed budget to the Roane County United Way board of directors in February. The board approved the Committee's recommended budget of \$342,469 in funding to agencies and programs in 2007.

Once again this year, funding decisions were difficult, as the need is always greater than the resources. Many thanks go to the members of each of our Allocations Panels, and to the Budget and Allocation Committee, headed by board member Janice Bardill.



Meet our new board members. . . Several new members were elected to our Board of Directors at the annual meeting in April. We welcome...

Darrell Akins: Darrell is a new resident to Roane County but not a stranger to United Way. Having served as the chairman of United Way of Greater Knoxville's board, Darrell has been active with United Way and their partner agencies for many years. We welcome Darrell's expertise to our board.

Bob Capell: Bob and his wife, Barbara, served on our Campaign Team for the past two years. Bob has also served on our Transitional Task Force and also volunteers with Roane County Cooperative Ministries. He is a graduate of Leadership Roane County and is a resident of Rockwood.

Ken Beauchamp – Ken and his wife, Faye, moved to Roane County 24 years ago. He serves as the Director of physical Plant Services at Roane State Community College. Ken has served on the United Way Allocations Committee for the past five years and has also served on the Transitional Task Force. Ken resides in Kingston.

Dinia Burnette – Dinia is a native of Rockwood and is currently the branch manger of US Bank in Rockwood. Dinia is a long-time supporter of United Way. Community service activities include graduate of Leadership Roane County, a member of the Rockwood Rotary Club.

Bobby Davis – Bobby is employed with the Dept. of Energy in Oak Ridge. He has served for the past three years on the Allocation Committee. He is a member of the Kingston Rotary Club and also a graduate of Leadership Roane County. Bobby is married to Dr. Deborah Alexander-Davis. They reside in Kingston.

John Sublett – John is owner of Scandlyn Lumber Company in Rockwood. He is also commissioner of the Rockwood Water Sewer and Gas Board, a member of Rockwood Civitan, Executive Board member of the Smoky Mountain Boy Scout Council. John has also served on our UW Allocation Committee.



We say Thanks to departing board members. . .

We want to express our deep appreciation to departing board members Janice Bardill, Bill Mixon and Greg Pugh. Janice has served on the United Way Board for the past six years. She has chaired our Allocation Committee and has also served as Board Chair. Bill has served three years on our board as well as on our Allocation Committee. Greg Pugh has served as our treasurer. Greg and his family are moving to Crossville. Thank you to all of you! You may be gone but never forgotten....

4th Annual Leadership Givers' Dinner held at Whitestone...

Our annual Leadership Givers' dinner recognizes individuals who contributed \$500 or more to the campaign, as well as companies that made a corporate gift of \$1,000 or more or whose employee campaigns raised \$3,000 or more. This year's dinner, held March 23 at the Whitestone Country Inn, was sponsored by the Whitestone, Sexton Automotive Group, AkinsCrisp Public Strategies, Rarity Communities, Energysolutions, Laura's Liquor and Wine Store, and the Kingston Rotary Club. The approximately 100 people who attended the event were treated to a delicious buffet dinner followed by a presentation by local storyteller (and Dyllis Elementary School principal) Elizabeth Rose. As a token of appreciation for their support, the Leadership Givers who attended were presented with a collectible "party hat" favor designed by Stephen Brown of Glitterville in Rockwood.



Michael Dunn Center hosts Annual Meeting and Campaign Recognition...

Nearly 40 guests representing donors, agencies and volunteers attended the RCUW Annual Meeting, held March 29 at the Michael Dunn Center in Kingston. The meeting featured the election of board members for 2007-08, along with the recognition of volunteers and company campaign efforts during 2006-07.

We welcome the following individuals to our board of directors: Ken Beauchamp, Roane State Community College; Dinia Burnette, US Bank; Bob Capell, retired from the U.S. Air Force; Bobby Davis, Department of Energy, and John Sublett, Scandlyn Lumber; along with Darrell Akins of AkinsCrisp Public Strategies, who joined the board in November to serve the unexpired term of Becky Brunton, who had resigned from the board. At the same time, we bid farewell to outgoing board members Janice Bardill and Bill Mixon. Janice has served two three-year terms; she was our 2005-06 board chair and chaired our 2006-07 Allocations Committee. Bill, who has completed one term, has served on the Community Impact Committee and chaired our Health and Rehabilitation Allocation Panel. We thank them both for their service to our community through United Way.

Thanks also go to the Michael Dunn Center for an excellent lunch and for their continued hospitality in hosting our annual meeting.

A full report on the yearly activities of the RCUW can be obtained through our annual report, which will be available on our web site following completion of our annual audit in May.



Speaking of our web site... We hope everyone will take a few minutes to visit Roane County United Way's **new** web site, at www.unitedwayroane.org. Dan and Cathy McDowell of Roane County's Light Weaver Group have graciously donated their services to the creation and maintenance of the site. Take a look, and let us know if you have comments or suggestions!

PROJECT FREEDOM™
 Helping the willing achieve financial freedom

Volunteer Income Tax Program completes third year...

Once again this year Roane County United Way provided income tax assistance by hosting the local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. United Ways nationwide partner with the IRS to locate or provide sites for this important service, and are particularly interested in focusing on households that meet the criteria to receive the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Care credits. VITA returns are filed electronically; personal information is secure and confidential. This year the results were as follows:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Total Returns Filed	196	117
Number of clients receiving refunds	167	97
Total Net Amount of Refunds	\$189,983	\$110,229
Avg. Refund for all clients	\$1138	\$942
Number of clients receiving EITC	47	31
Total EITC amount	\$63,622	\$41,338
Avg. EITC all	\$1354	\$1333
Number of clients w/AGI >\$10,000	77	43
w/AGI >\$15,000	108	82

We say a BIG thank you to our volunteer preparers: Dana Peterka (site coordinator), Paulette Lawson, Joan Higgins, Tony Malinauskas, Joe Castle, Phyllis Jackson and Grant Palmer. If you would be interested in being a tax preparer, please contact the United Way office for information.



Agencies/Organizations invited to attend The Roane County Inter Agency Council. . .

These monthly meetings are open to [any organization](#) (including churches) providing social service/benevolence programs to the Roane County community. This is an opportunity to learn about programs and services that are available in our county. It is also an opportunity to network with other organizations. We would welcome anyone interested in participating. [We feel the more that participate, the better connected and efficient we can become in providing services to our community.](#)

The Inter Agency Council meets the second Tuesday of every month from 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the United Way offices which are located in the Rescue Squad building in midtown. A pot luck lunch is offered. The meeting format is informal with time being allotted for agency announcements, networking and then a featured speaker. Feel free to contact the Roane County United Way for more information.

- Next Meeting – July 10, 2007**
- Time - 11:30 – 1:00**
- Lunch - Pizza Buffet -**
- Program - Dept. of Human Services**

United Way partners with GoodSearch... What

if the Roane County United Way earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Well, now we can! GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter United Way of Roane County as the charity you want to support. Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$7300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! And, be sure to spread the word!



Volunteer Opportunities

United Way -- VITA volunteers needed. We are looking for volunteers to help expand our **volunteer income tax assistance program**. Training is provided. If you would be interested in helping us out, give the United Way a call.

Landscaping project – The UW office has a small flower bed that needs some attention. We would appreciate the donation of some bedding plants and/or a bird feeder and birdbath to help spruce up our entrance.

- ❖ **CASA of the Tennessee Heartland** is looking for individuals to serve as court advocates for their program. Training is provided. If you are interested in learning more about the program, you can call Lou Devlin at 882-6111.
- ❖ **Child & Family Tennessee** will take **your old cell phones**. You may drop them off (along with the charger) at the Roane County United Way offices.
- ❖ **The Salvation Army** will be needing individuals or groups to ring bells during their **Kettle Campaign**. The campaign will begin the day after Thanksgiving and continue up to Christmas. For information or to volunteer, call Marie Ruby at 882-3398

More volunteer opportunities may be available – contact United Way for information.



From the Director... Hello from the Roane County United Way! Several months have passed since our last publication. As you can see, we are continuing to provide services to the Roane County Community year-round. Exciting things are continuing to unfold all of which are possible because of your continued support! I would like to highlight just a few of the things we are excited to be working on.

Project Freedom is continuing to expand and we hope to strengthen this program with the addition of our new **VISTA, Anna Waldman**. Anna is relatively new to Roane County having moved here 14 months ago from Seattle. Anna will be out in the community advocating for our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program and the other programs associated with Project Freedom. Please make her welcome as she comes to your company or organization.

United Way in Transition – We will be revisiting our Transitional Task Force work as we begin to narrow down what we as a United Way will focus on in the coming years. More information to come.

New Website – We are SO excited about our new website. After several years on this endeavor we were blessed to have been introduced to LightWeaver Group. This is still a bit of a work in process, but we are practically there! We will also be able to accept on line donations –

Pre K – Early childhood learning initiatives are being supported by United Ways nationwide. We are so thrilled to be able to support our community through special grants to our Pre K classrooms.

Chamber of Commerce and County Long Range Planning Committee – I was excited to be elected to the Roane County Chamber Board of Directors. I was equally as honored to be asked by our County Mayor to serve on the County's Long Range Planning Committee in the area of shared services. I'm looking forward to serving our community in these areas.

We have other activities in the works but some details are not finalized yet. We hope to be able to announce a few more projects later this summer. We invite your participation in United Way activities. We cannot do all we do without volunteer support. Please feel free to contact our office if you are interested in volunteering.

Again thank you for your support of the Roane County United Way. I wish you all a great and safe summer!

Staff --

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