



United Way Fox Cities



Will you join the LIVE UNITED Story?

Issue No. 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- “Dollars for Diapers” Do It! Challenge Helps Area Families. pg 1-2
- Local Projects Funded by United Way Fox Cities’ Youth Board Grants pg 2
- The Weight of the Fox Valley’s Campaign for a Healthier Community pg 3
- Annual Report to the Community . . . pg 3
- Join us for a Tour! pg 4
- United Way Fox Cities Wins Chamber Corporate Leader Award. pg 4

MISSION STATEMENT

United Way Fox Cities improves lives by bringing diverse people together to build a stronger, more caring community for everyone.

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www.UnitedWayFoxCities.org

“Dollars for Diapers” Do It! Challenge Helps Area Families With Diaper Need

This spring, the community came together to support the Fox Cities Diaper Bank through the Post-Crescent’s “Dollars for Diapers” Do It! Challenge. The Challenge ran Mother’s Day through Father’s Day and exceeded



the campaign goal by raising over \$41,400. The monies raised will have a tremendous impact on the families in the Fox Cities; “Dollars for Diapers” will allow the diaper bank to have a well-stocked inventory of sizes for all ages of babies.

When we think of basic needs, diapers may not be the first item that comes to mind. However, for many families, buying diapers means cutting back on food, utilities, or medications. According to the Huggies

Every Little Bottom study commissioned by Kimberly-Clark, one in three families is unable to provide diapers for their babies; that statistic proves true in the Fox Cities. In 2010, United Way’s Basic Needs & Self-Sufficiency impact area invited community experts to help educate our volunteers on basic needs.



(Continued on Page 2)

“Dollars for Diapers” Do It!

(Continued from Page 1)



(Above) Volunteers repack diapers for the Fox Cities Diaper Bank

We learned:

- There is a need for diapers among low-income families.
- Food pantries do not have an adequate supply of diapers to meet those needs.
- Babies who remain too long in a soiled diaper are exposed to potential health risks.
- Most child care centers, even free and subsidized facilities, require parents to provide a day’s supply of disposable diapers.
- Many parents cannot go to work or school if they cannot leave their babies at child care.

Because of this need, United Way Fox Cities gathered community partners to establish the Fox Cities Diaper Bank in the fall of 2010. **This United Way initiative is now providing over 300,000 diapers to babies in the Fox Cities annually.**

The Diaper Bank was been successful because of many partners who work together to distribute, store, support and repackage the diapers. We thank local companies that have conducted diaper drives and the over 900 community volunteers who have been involved in repackaging diapers for distribution to families. “I continue to marvel at the generosity of this community,” Peter Kelly, United Way Fox Cities President and CEO, said. “This makes a real difference to the health and well-being of the over 600 babies who will receive diapers every month.” ■

Local Projects Funded by United Way Fox Cities’ Youth Board Grants

United Way Youth Board members comprise students from 12 area high schools. Twice per year, the Youth Board awards grants to youth-oriented programs in the Fox Cities. A total of 7 grants were awarded in June:

Kimberly High School: FREE3 Club Classroom Presentations create awareness of the dangers of tobacco use for 3rd and 5th grade students.

St. Francis Xavier Link Crew is a program designed to help freshmen easily adjust to high school.

Hortonville High School H.O.P.E. (Helping Our Peers Engage) strives to include everyone in school activities by reaching out to the students with developmental difficulties.

Apple Creek YMCA Nature Play Area will enhance the YMCA play area, providing a natural setting that will promote unstructured play.

Columbus Elementary School Technology Club assists Columbus and the Appleton Bilingual School with announcements by video.

Kimberly High School: Change for Charity is a fundraiser for nonprofits. During the third quarter, over \$1,700 worth of change was donated to Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Fox Valley Sibling Support Network: Teen Sibling Leadership Day promotes team building for teens with special-needs children in their families. (Below) Teens participate in team building exercises at camp. ■

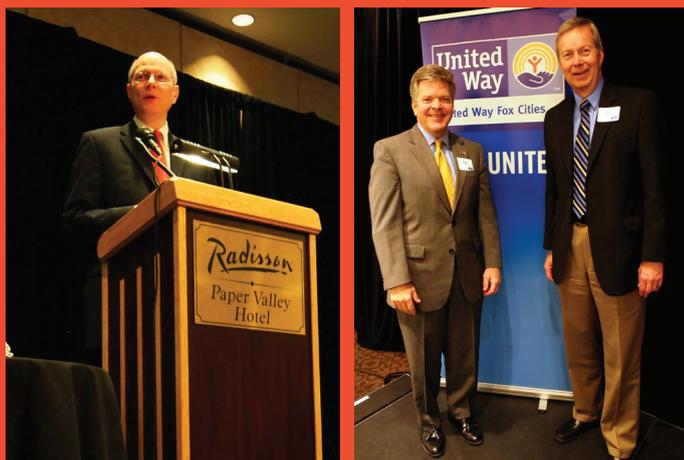


THE WEiGHT OF THE FOX VALLEY

The Weight of the Fox Valley Begins Campaign for a Healthier Community

Did you know that 62% of residents in the Fox Cities self-reported in the 2011 Life Study that they are overweight or obese? Being overweight affects individuals and our entire community physically, socially, psychologically and economically. This data led to obesity becoming an emerging priority for the Fox Valley HealthCare Coalition, Oshkosh and Fox Cities' United Ways and ThedaCare's Community Health Action Team and, ultimately, to the creation of The Weight of the Fox Valley.

Over 200 attendees came together on June 5th to kick-off the Weight of the Fox Valley, a three-county initiative to build a community that achieves and maintains a healthy weight at every age. The event was divided into two meetings, a morning session for the general assembly and an afternoon session to kick-off the first two Action Teams: Active Communities and Worksite. ■



United Way Fox Cities' annual report to the community featured keynote speaker Jon Stellmacher (left) and 2013 Wes Urch Volunteer Service Award recipients Dean Gruner (right, pictured with United Way CEO, Peter Kelly) and Robert Abernathy (not pictured).

Photo Credit: Joseph Quinnell

Meet Keren Rosenberg, Manager of The Weight of the Fox Valley. Keren and her family moved from Israel to Appleton two years ago, relocating to the Fox Valley area because of her husband's work at Kimberly-Clark.



For the last 6 years, she served as a director of the "Nutrition and Healthy Living Programs" in Israel at the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), an American global nonprofit organization. In April 2013, Keren presented the JDC's health programs at the White House and met Michelle Obama's leadership team for the "Let's Move!" initiative. Keren is excited to be working on this new community initiative, "I am hopeful we will be able to join together and collectively work toward building a healthier community."



Have you taken the pledge? If you would like to join this fun campaign, please send an email to keren.rosenberg@unitedwayfoxcities.org describing one healthy action you will implement in your life. Include your home address and Keren will send you a postcard in a couple of weeks to remind you of your commitment. Don't forget to join WOTFV on Facebook to learn about additional ways to get involved! www.facebook.com/WeightoftheFoxValley ■

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Join us for a Tour!

Join us for the 2014 United Way Experience Tours! Experience Tours provide hands-on opportunities to learn about United Way's positive impact in the community. Each tour is one chapter in the LIVE UNITED Story. From now through March 9, 2015, there are ten tours offered at various times and dates - you are welcome to join us for more than one tour. Find a complete schedule on the home page of our website: www.UnitedWayFoxCities.org and RSVP to attend the tours by emailing: ResourceDevelopment@UnitedWayFoxCities.org with your name and the tour you are interested in attending. ■

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(Above) United Way Fox Cities staff Nanci Micke, Doug Collins and Sandy Drexler accept the Corporate Leader Chamber award. United Way Fox Cities was named 2014 winner of the Corporate Citizen/Corporate Leader award by the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce. The annual Business Awards program recognizes excellence in businesses that have a unique blend of vision, energy, perseverance, skill and outstanding achievements in operating as well as leadership in the community.

Photo Credit: Craig Augustine