



# United Way of Greater Monroe County

## ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009

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Monroe County Gov't Complex  
1619 Hwy. 25 N.  
Amory, MS 38821  
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Central Office - Aberdeen  
124 West Commerce St.  
Aberdeen, MS 39730  
Phone: 662-369-4983

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**UNITED WAY OF  
GREATER MONROE COUNTY**

Aberdeen Office

124 West Commerce Street  
Aberdeen, MS 39730  
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Amory Office

ALL MAIL: P.O. Box 612  
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**Patti H. Parker**  
Executive Director

**Board of Directors**

**Brad Stevens**  
Community Bank  
President

**Jeff King**  
Community Bank  
1st Vice President

**Diane Bryant**  
Community Volunteer  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Robin Campbell**  
Amory Realty, Inc.  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Kay Hood**  
Community Volunteer  
At -large member

**Michael Freed**  
The Freed Law Group, PLLC  
At-Large Member

**Ruth Griffith**  
Community Volunteer  
Immediate Past President

**Dee Allison**  
Community Volunteer

**Chris Brown**  
Aberdeen RV

**Dewayne Blaylock**  
Gilmore Memorial Regional Hospital

**Todd Goldman**  
Tronox

**Tommy Griffith**  
True Temper

**Mark Johnson**  
Tronox

**Nate Johnson**  
Georgia Gulf

**Doug Knittig**  
Georgia Gulf

**Ron Mooneyham**  
Bancorp South

**Selena Standifer**  
Gilmore Memorial Regional Hospital

**Marilyn Summerford**  
Access Family Health

Dear Friends of United Way,

We hope you will find this report both *informative* and *inspiring*.

*Informative*, because we believe in being good stewards of all the resources entrusted to us.

*Inspiring*, because we believe in the possibilities that exist when we focus our collective attention on problems to be solved or needs to be met. Together, we can create the type of measurable, meaningful change that United Way is all about.

As you can see from this report, the United Way of Greater Monroe County has recently undergone its own change. While we are dedicated to helping provide increased resources for our member agencies, we have also expanded our commitment to bringing new programs into the county as part of our own United Way Special Initiatives. These new programs are wholly operated by our United Way as we continue to increase our Scope of Services.

We truly appreciate the generosity and the continuing support of this community.

This is *your* United Way. This is *your* community.

We look forward to our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

*Patti H. Parker*

Patti H. Parker  
Executive Director  
United Way of Greater Monroe County



Way to Work, Families First, Student Nursing Academy and Arts Across the Ages  
are operated by the United Way of Greater Monroe County.



## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY

### ***WHO WE ARE***

In 1991, the United Way of Greater Monroe County was established as a project of Leadership Monroe. United Way of Greater Monroe County is an independent locally based voluntary effort that seeks to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community.

We are a non-profit charitable organization governed by a local volunteer board of directors that is broadly representative of the county.

### ***WHAT WE DO***

Create, develop, coordinate, and implement community services by functioning as a central resource for the nonprofit sector in Monroe County

Communicate with the public to enlist the resources required to create solutions to the needs of our community

Raise resources to support and sustain meaningful and measurable community impact

Invest resources effectively, based on community impact, prevention and crisis needs

### ***OUR PHILOSOPHY AND MISSION***

The mission of the United Way of Greater Monroe County is to create meaningful, measurable, positive impact in our community.

Community Impact means that we improve lives by mobilizing our community to help create lasting changes in area conditions.

**REAL COMMUNITY IMPACT ACHIEVES REAL RESULTS.  
RESULTS MATTER!  
COMMUNITY MATTERS!**

### ***BECAUSE COMMUNITY MATTERS...WE ARE HERE***

Providing leadership when collective action and coordinated approaches are needed. Our long standing relationships with local business, industry, healthcare, school, municipal, and nonprofit partners allow us to bring together the best collaborative solutions to complex community needs.

Providing volunteer oversight which assures that not only our United Way, but any agencies funded by us, adhere to sound fiscal policies and provide quality service.

Multiplying each individual's impact in the community. Partnership with United Way multiplies everyone's impact because we can all support one common goal in many different ways, all through one gift to United Way.



# UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY

## SCOPE OF SERVICES

### United Way Member Agencies – *Local funds helping local agencies*

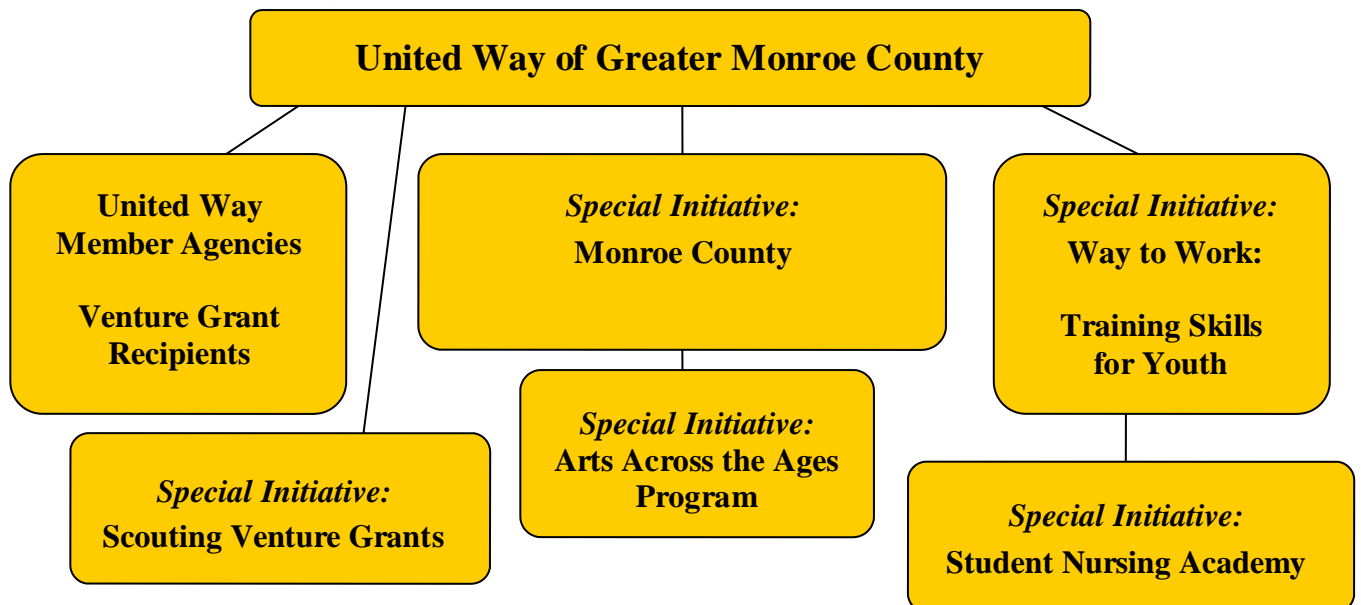
- When we receive your annual donation, we combine it with other donations. We then form a committee of volunteers to evaluate the needs of our community. Based on their recommendations and the approval of our volunteer Board of Directors, we distribute those donations to programs that have successfully passed our application process and are actively meeting community needs.
- Each year many local non-profit agencies go through our multi-step application process to receive United Way funding. Those who receive funding are called United Way Member Agencies. Our fourteen current Member Agencies include children’s homes, food pantries, emergency resources and assistance and programs that promote health and independence.

### United Way Venture Grant Recipients - *Special local funding for local needs*

- In addition to providing funds to our Member Agencies, we also make smaller grants available to other local non-profit groups. These smaller grants are called Venture Grants. Recent Venture Grant recipients include: Amory’s Quality Education Foundation (QEF), Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Loving Hands Outreach in Hamilton and the Aberdeen Elkin Theater.

### United Way Special Initiatives – *Great local programs we developed with designated grants*

- We have recently expanded our Scope of Services to include other programs operated by our own United Way. United Way Special Initiatives are funded by competitive grants obtained by our United Way. These Special Initiatives include:
  - **Arts Across the Ages**
  - **Families First Resource Center**
  - **Way to Work: Workforce Training Skills for Youth**
  - **Student Nursing Academy**
  - **Scouting Venture Grants**



# UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY

## STAFF

**Patti H. Parker**  
Executive Director

**Ann Tackett**  
Program Director  
Way to Work, Families First Resource Center, Student Nursing Academy

**Lorie Bryant**  
Project Manager

**Jackie Lenderman**  
Accounts Manager/Teacher

**Fernando Davis**  
Program Coordinator/Case Manager/Teacher  
Way to Work, Families First Resource Center

**Jackie Evans**  
Case Manager/Teacher  
Way to Work

**Kellie Sanchez Case**  
Manager/Teacher Way  
to Work

**Theresa Martin**  
Program Coordinator  
Arts Across the Ages, Families First Resource Center

### **Supplemental Staff:**

**Hilda Garth**, Families First Resource Center  
**Antoinette Alexander**, Families First Resource Center  
**Angie Minor, R.N.**, Student Nursing Academy

**UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY  
2009-2010 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Brad Stevens**, President

**Jeff King**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Diane Bryant**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Robin Campbell**, Secretary / Treasurer

**Kay Hood**, At-Large

**Michael Freed**, At-Large

**Ruth Griffith**, Ex-Officio

**Patti H. Parker**, Executive Director

**2009-2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Dee Allison**

Community Volunteer

**Kay Hood**

Community Volunteer

**Dewayne Blaylock**

Gilmore Memorial Regional Medical Center

**Mark Johnson**

Tronox

**Diane Bryant**

Community Volunteer

**Nate Johnson**

Georgia Gulf

**Chris Brown**

Aberdeen RV

**Jeff King**

Community Bank

**Robin Campbell**

Amory Realty

**Doug Knittig**

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**Michael Freed**

Freed Law Group

**Ron Mooneyham**

Bancorp South

**Todd Goldman**

Tronox

**Selena Standifer**

Gilmore Memorial Regional Medical Center

**Ruth Griffith**

Community Volunteer

**Brad Stevens**

Community Bank

**Tommy Griffith**

True Temper

**Marilyn Summerford**

Access Family Health Services

# UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY

## 2009 FUND DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Each year, following our annual campaign, the United Way of Greater Monroe County distributes the funds raised. These locally raised funds help support the work of local nonprofit agencies and also help to fund our Venture Grant Program.

Each year agencies must reapply for United Way funding. All agencies submit a detailed Grant Application and Financial Report to United Way for review. For the critical task of distributing these funds, we form a Fund Distribution Committee of United Way donors and volunteers.

In order to make this process as efficient as possible, our Fund Distribution Committee divides into small groups which spend several days reviewing each application and preparing questions they would like to ask each agency representative during the agency interview phase.

Before agency representatives are interviewed, our Fund Distribution volunteers are given a brief training session. Then, our volunteers are divided back into their small groups and the agencies assigned to each group are interviewed. Following the agency interviews, all teams of Fund Distribution volunteers meet together to discuss a recommended funding amount for each agency.

The United Way Board of Directors makes the final funding decision.

**Kittie Edwards**

Galloway, Chandler, McKinney

**Mark Johnson**

Tronox

**Ruth Griffith**

Community Volunteer

**Diane Bryant**

Community Volunteer

**Kay Hood**

Community Volunteer

**Tommy Plunkett**

Tronox

**Nate Johnson**

Georgia Gulf

**Diane Oliver**

Galloway, Chandler, McKinney

**Jeff King**

Community Bank

**Jon Alexander**

Renasant Bank

**Robin Campbell**

Amory Realty

**Michael Freed**

The Freed Law Group

**Naveed Alim**

Tronox

**Ron Mooneyham**

Bancorp South

**Ivan Bryant**

Community Bank

**Dewayne Blaylock,**

Gilmore Memorial Medical Center

**Robin Hill**

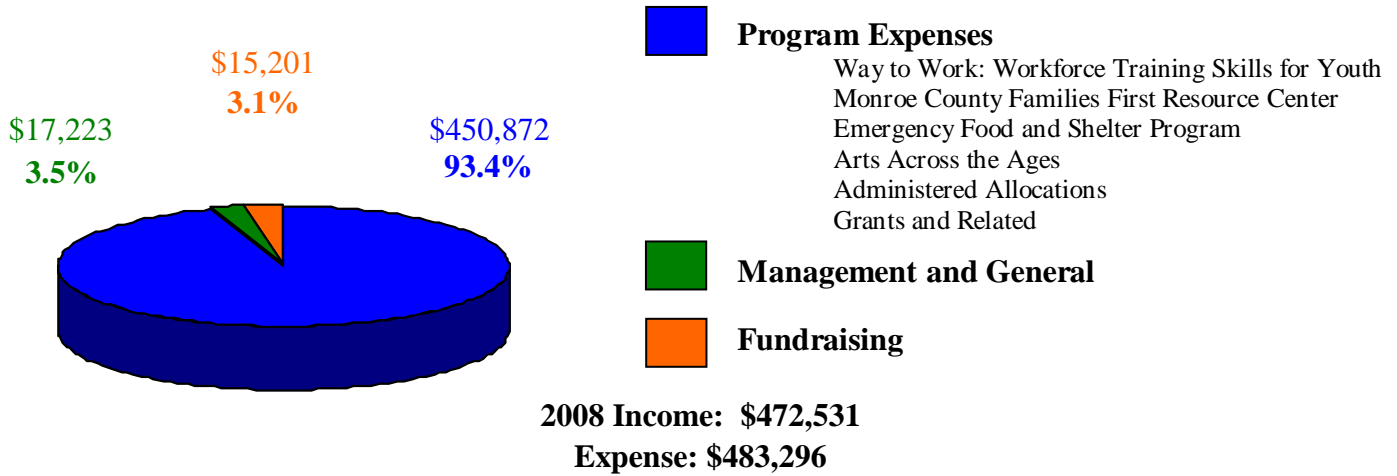
Galloway, Chandler, McKinney

**Todd Goldman**

Tronox

# UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY

## 2008 EXPENDITURES



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Does United Way support Boy Scouts?**

Yes. Even though the Boy Scout and Girl Scout Councils did not apply for funding this year, United Way make Scouting Venture Grants available to each individual troop in Monroe County.

**Does United Way support abortion?**

No. United Way of Greater Monroe County has never funded a Planned Parenthood or similar agency. Instead, we have helped fund various projects of Save A Life of Monroe County.

**How much of my donation goes to the national United Way?**

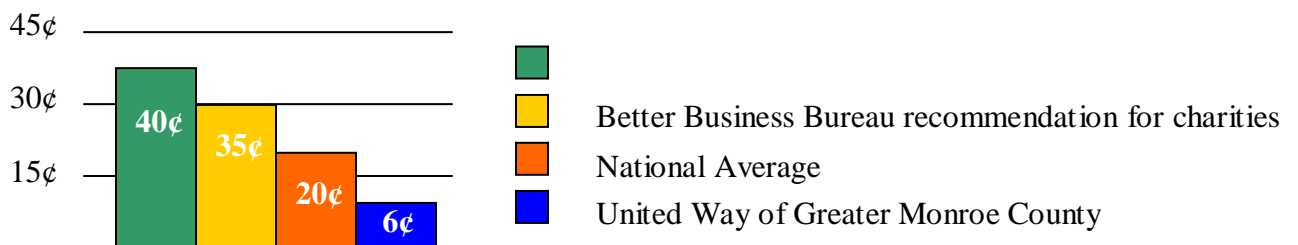
Less than 1 % of the money raised in Monroe County goes to United Way of America. In return we receive many free United Way materials and resources. Following Hurricane Katrina, United Way of America also provided two grants totaling \$65,000 to United Way of Greater Monroe County for evacuee assistance and long term disaster preparedness.

**How are United Way resources distributed?**

Each year resources generated by United Way are distributed by volunteers who spend many hours considering our community's needs, reviewing funding requests, examining agency programs and finances, and interviewing agency staff.

**Are your administrative costs low?**

Yes. United Way of Greater Monroe County maintained a low administrative expense of approximately 5.5 % in 2008. Our budgeted expense for 2009 is 6 %. The chart below shows how we compare with recommended charitable guidelines.



**United Way of Greater Monroe County**  
**Always at work in our community...because Community Matters!**



## United Way of Greater Monroe County 2009 Campaign Contributors

### **Titanium Level Partners** - (up to \$25,000)

Georgia Gulf Corporation

Georgia Gulf Employees

### **Gold Level Partners** - (up to \$10,000)

True Temper Employees

Tronox Employees

Monroe County Schools Employees

Gilmore Foundation Employees

Gilmore Memorial Regional Hospital

### **Silver Level Partners** - (up to \$5,000)

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Correnti

City of Amory

Access Family Health Services

Nautic Star Employees

Lane Furniture Employees

Townhouse Furniture

Wal-Mart Employees

Lane Furniture Corporation

Amory City Schools

Wal-Mart Corporation

Cadence Bank of Aberdeen

Community Bank

Linda and Eddy Holden

Cadence Bank of Amory

BNSF Foundation

North Mississippi Medical Center

ITT Employees

Renasant Bank of Amory

Frank and Melissa Durrett

Oak Tree Plantation

United Way Monroe County Employees

### **Bronze Level Partners** - (up to \$1,000)

Texas Eastern Employees

Monroe County Co-op

Radiology Clinic

E.E. Pickle Funeral Home

Jacob Lee Construction

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown

Marketplace Insurance

Howard and Joyce Brand

Diane and Buddy Bryant

Cingular

Dr. and Mrs. Hoat Hoang

Amory Federal

Cadence Bank of Hamilton

Atmos Energy

Bancorp South of Aberdeen

Golden Living Employees

Jeff, Patti, Taylor Ann and JJ Boozar

Galloway, Chandler, McKinney of Aberdeen

Galloway, Chandler, McKinney of Amory

### **Friends of United Way**- (up to \$250)

The Aurora Club

Ann Sanders

Kay Hood

Mary Nell Dorris

Dr. and Mrs. James Lewis

Margaret Clement

Steve and Betty Ashton

Emory Morgan

Sharion Aycock

Amory Animal Hospital

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Leech

Benny and Wanda Wright

Dr. Tom Powell/The Vision Center

Mr. and Mrs. H.L. Robinson

Wellman Works

Dr. Robert J. Cole

Dr. B.O. Moore

Dr. Thomas B. Shepherd, Jr.

J.B. Markham

Helton Dental Clinic

David W. Houston, III

Mr. Roy Doss

Barbara P. McDonald

Thomas and Ruth Griffith

Len and Jean Pinkley

Aberdeen Schools Employees

Bancorp South of Hamilton

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Thompson

Aberdeen RV Employees

Amory Housing Authority Employees

Michael Freed/The Freed Law Group, P.A.

Monroe County Government Employees

### **Community Spirit Partners** - (100% employee participation)

Galloway, Chandler, McKinney of Amory

Bancorp South of Hamilton

United Way of Greater Monroe County

Bancorp South of Aberdeen

Renasant Bank of Amory

Cadence Bank of Hamilton

Cadence Bank of Amory

### **Special thanks to the following:**

Bell and Son Trucking Company \* Monroe County Journal \* RiverBirch Golf Club \* The Grill at RiverBirch



## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY MEMBER AGENCIES

Each year many local non-profit agencies go through a multi-step application process to receive United Way funding. Those who are approved to receive funding are called United Way Member Agencies.

Without the financial support of United Way, many of these agencies would be adversely affected. Many of the services they provide would be drastically reduced or simply not available at all. In our role as an advocate for our agencies, we are able to help provide them with greater access to donated goods, services and funding.

The grants that our United Way makes to agencies are very important. That is why each year we ask our community to support the United Way of Greater Monroe County during our fall fundraising campaign. Contributions to United Way can easily be made through payroll deduction in the workplace. Even those working outside Monroe County, can designate their pledge to Monroe County by writing "Monroe County" on their pledge forms. If workplace giving is not an option, donations may be made directly by cash or check.

Throughout the year, we work closely with our agencies to meet the most pressing needs of our community.

### **2008 Member Agencies:**

Alpha House Home for Boys	Faith Haven Shelter
Gardner Simmons Home	Retired Senior Volunteer Program
Sally Kate Winters Family Services	First Friends Center
Regional Rehabilitation Center	Women First Resource Center
American Red Cross	Amory Food Pantry
Amory Meals on Wheels	Contact Helpline
FAITH Food Pantry	Monroe County 4-H
Survival, Inc.	
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence	

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Gardner Simmons Home	Retired Senior Volunteer Program
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National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence	



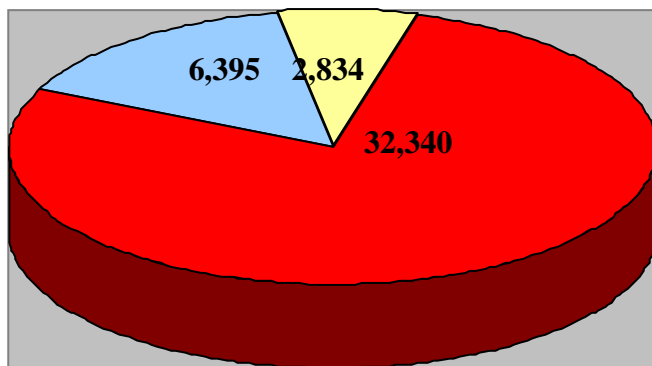
## UNITED WAY MEMBER AGENCIES

In order to assess the effectiveness of our programs, United Way Member Agencies are categorized into three service areas:

- Helping Children and Families Succeed
- Promoting Health and Independence
- Strengthening Resources/ Providing Emergency Assistance

The chart below represents how United Way helped our community in 2008 through the services provided by our Member Agencies.

**A Look Back: 2008**  
**United Way Member Agencies: 41,569 Services**



Helping Children and Families Succeed



Promoting Health and Independence



Strengthening Resources/  
Providing Emergency Assistance



## Helping Children and Families Succeed

**The Service:** *How we have helped our community*

Providing children and families with a safe environment, free from abuse or neglect. Giving our youth and children the opportunity to participate in character building programs and learn independent living skills.

**The Numbers:** *Compiled by United Way from Member Agency Quarterly and Annual Reports*

2,834 Services were provided in this category in 2008

**The Agencies:** *Key Agencies engaged in providing these services*

**Alpha House Home for Boys** - P.O. Box 301, Tupelo, MS., 662-841-9009. Provides a home for abused, neglected, abandoned youth in our area.

**Faith Haven** - P.O. Box 835, Tupelo, MS, 662-844-7091. Provides 24 hour emergency care for children ages birth to 18, who have been removed from abusive or neglected situations or have been abandoned.

**Gardner Simmons Home for Girls** - P.O. Box 935, Tupelo, MS, 662-844-4433. Operates three programs for abused, neglected children, provides a home for girls ages 11-18 who have been victims of abuse/neglect.

**Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** – 207B 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Amory, MS, 662-256-2283 Provides a wide variety of programs for seniors and volunteer opportunities.

**Sally Kate Winters Family Services** - P.O. Box 1233, West Point, MS, 662-494-0120. Provides shelter for abused, neglected, abandoned children and youth.



## Promoting Health and Independence

**The Service:** *How we have helped our community*

Helped in the fight against substance abuse among youth and adults; provided therapy to improve the quality of life for handicapped children and adults. Provided life saving information and assistance for those diagnosed with cancer and Alzheimer's disease.

**The Numbers:** *Compiled by United Way from Member Agency Quarterly and Annual Reports*  
6,395 Services were provided in this category in 2008

**The Agencies:** *Key Agencies engaged in providing these services*

**First Friends Alzheimer's Support Center** - 3rd St. & 1st Ave., Amory, MS, 662-256-9730, 662-256-1082. Provides a day care facility for the elderly diagnosed with dementia, including Alzheimer's, while providing respite for the caregiver. Open Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence** - 200 N. Spring St., Tupelo, MS, 662-841-0403. Information, education, help and hope for addicted adolescents and adults. Free confidential assessments and referrals to treatments.

**Regional Rehabilitation Center** - 615 Pegram Drive, Tupelo, MS., 662-842-1891. Provides long-term outpatient, speech therapy, occupational therapy, audiology services and early intervention services free of charge to special needs children and adults.



## **Strengthening Resources - Providing Emergency Assistance**

### **The Service:** *How we have helped our community*

Families and children given food, clothing and shelter; meals delivered to the elderly and disabled. Information and referrals provided 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week, providing a helping and listening ear to the elderly and homebound or those in a crisis situation.

**The Numbers:** *Compiled by United Way from Member Agency Quarterly and Annual Reports*  
32,340 Services were provided in this category in 2008.

### **The Agencies:** *Key Agencies engaged in providing these services*

**American Red Cross - Tenn- Tom Chapter** - 220 5th St. North, Columbus, MS, 662-328-5710 or 662-369-5710. - Provides training in a variety of safety programs, including CPR and First Aid, assists families with losses due to single family fire; assists with food, clothing, and shelter in emergency situations.

**Amory Food Pantry** - 123 South Main Street, Amory, MS. Distributes food to needy residents in North Monroe County each Tuesday between 9-11 a.m.

**Amory Meals on Wheels** - 123 South Main Street, Amory, MS, 662-256-5816. Delivers hot meals to the elderly and home bound in the Amory area.

**Contact Helpline** - P.O. Box 1304, Columbus, MS, 1-800-377-1643. Provides 24 hour, 7 day a week information and referrals to those seeking help, makes reassurance calls to elderly and home bound residents.

**FAITH Food Pantry** - 102 Front Ave., Nettleton, MS, 662-963-2646, 662-963-2608. Distributes food to needy residents in South Monroe County on the third Saturday of each month between 8-10 a.m.

**Monroe County 4-H** - 517 Hwy. 45N, Suite 1, Aberdeen, MS, 662-369-4951. Offers special interest clubs and programs for youth ages 8-18.

**Survival. Inc.** - P.O. Box 171, Saltillo, MS, 1-888-915-7788. Provides outreach services to victims of violent crime including family members, enabling them to reconstruct their lives. Monthly support groups for adults and children.



## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY UNITED TO CARE WEEK

Each year United Way of Greater Monroe County sponsors "United to Care Week". During this time, members of the community have the opportunity to work at one of our local Member Agencies. "United To Care" is a great way for volunteers to see firsthand how their United Way contributions are at work in the community. It also serves an important purpose by providing agencies with many "extras hands" to help complete projects that agencies might not otherwise be able to undertake.

During the week volunteers help with a variety of projects that could include anything from yard work, serving home delivered meals, reading to children, assisting the elderly, stocking canned goods and clerical work. Below we have included snapshots of our many "United To Care" activities.





## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY VENTURE GRANTS

In addition to providing funds to our Member Agencies, United Way of Greater Monroe County also makes smaller Venture Grants available to local non-profit groups. These grants may be used for a special program or project of the agency. They may also be used for a special equipment purchase. Over the past several years, many of our Volunteer Fire Departments have received United Way Venture Grants.

Venture Grants are reviewed on a monthly basis by the United Way Executive Board and Board of Directors.

### **2008 Venture Grant recipients include:**

Becker/Athens Volunteer Fire Department  
*Equipment*

Amory Quality Education Foundation (QEF)  
*Special Project*

Aberdeen Elkin Theater  
*Equipment*

Hamilton Loving Hands Outreach  
*Special Project*

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)  
*Special Project*

### **2009 Venture Grant recipients include:**

Aberdeen Elkin Theater  
*Equipment*

L.I.F.E. (Living Independence for Everyone)  
*Special Project*

Women First Amory Chapter  
*Special Project*



## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY SPECIAL INITIATIVES

United Way of Greater Monroe County operates several locally developed Community Focus Programs or Special Initiatives. As we work to bring lasting change to our community, we have identified areas of need that can be addressed by each of our special focus programs.



### **Way to Work: Workforce Training Skills for Youth**

The goal of the program is to lead youth to self-sufficiency through GED attainment; full-time, long-term employment; and/or post-secondary educational opportunities.



### **Monroe County Families First Resource Center**

The goal of this program is to strengthen and preserve the family unit. Our program components include Health Marriage Education, Parenting Education, Responsible Fatherhood Education, Abstinence Education, Support Group meetings and a lending library.



### **United Way Student Nursing Academy**

The United Way of Greater Monroe County Student Nurse Academy Program is designed to prepare students ages 18-21 for a career in nursing.



### **Arts Across the Ages Program**

The United Way of Greater Monroe County Arts Across the Ages Program serves as a center for cultural, dramatic, and fine arts for children, youth and adults in Monroe County.



### **Scouting Venture Grants**

Scouting Venture Grants encourage participation in scouting in Monroe County by providing funds for camper ships, uniforms, and equipment.



## **UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY**

### **WAY TO WORK: WORKFORCE TRAINING SKILLS FOR YOUTH PROGRAM**



#### **Program Overview**

The Way to Work: Workforce Training Skills for Youth Program is a United Way Special Initiative funded by a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Grant from the Three Rivers Planning & Development District, Inc. and The Mississippi Partnership Local Workforce Investment Area, known as "The Mississippi Partnership".

The Way to Work: Workforce Training Skills for Youth Program targets out-of-school youth who are high school dropouts as well as youth who have graduated but are basic-skills deficient, unemployed, or underemployed. The goal of the program is to lead youth to self-sufficiency through GED attainment; full-time, long-term employment; and/or post-secondary educational opportunities.

While in our Way to Work Program, students have the opportunity to receive supportive services which include a small stipend for meals, travel and child care. Students also have the opportunity to be placed in "work experience" with a local business. Here they are able to gain knowledge about the real job world while earning minimum wage and working toward their GED.

#### **Our Way to Work Program operates in Monroe, Lee and Itawamba Counties.**

Monroe County: 101 West Commerce Street, Aberdeen, and 119 South Main Street, Amory.

Lee County: 499 Gloster Creek Village, Tupelo.

Itawamba County: 55008 Hwy 363, Mantachie.

This year our Way to Work: Workforce Training Skills for Youth Program assisted over 125 students and awarded 40 GEDs.



## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY MONROE COUNTY FAMILIES FIRST RESOURCE CENTER



### **Program Overview**

The United Way of Greater Monroe County Families First Resource Center is funded by a grant from the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The goal of this program is to strengthen and preserve the family unit. To that end, we provide a variety of family support services which enhance the lives of both the parents and their children. Our services help parents create and/or maintain a safe and healthy home environment that nurtures children and builds family stability. Our program components include Health Marriage Education, Parenting Education, Responsible Fatherhood Education, Abstinence Education, Support Group meetings and a lending library.

Through our resources as the United Way of Greater Monroe County, we are able to make referrals for our Resource Center clients to various United Way agencies such as our local food pantries. Our clients are also assisted through the many in kind donations our United Way receives.

#### **Some of our recent in kind donation include:**

Lane Furniture: Couches, loveseats, chairs, ottomans.  
First Books: Adult and children's books  
RIF (Reading Is Fundamental): Children's books  
Vitamin USA: Children's vitamins  
Feed the Children International: Supplemental food items, books, toys  
Home Depot: Supplies

#### **On average, our Resource Center monthly activities include:**

Distribution of 800 bottles of free children's vitamins  
Distribution of 300 free children's books  
Health Marriage Education Classes for 35 participants  
Parenting Education Classes for 40 participants  
Responsible Fatherhood Education Classes for 40 participants  
Abstinence Education Classes for 100 participants  
Support Group meetings for 25 participants  
Lending library/resources for 20 clients

The Monroe County Families First Resource Center is housed along with our Way to Work Program at 101 West Commerce Street in Aberdeen and 119 South Main Street in Amory.



## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY STUDENT NURSING ACADEMY



### Program Overview

The United Way Student Nursing Academy program is funded by the Bower Foundation through the MS Office of Nursing Workforce and is designed to prepare students ages 18-21 for a career in nursing.

In order to be selected for United Way's Student Nursing Academy, applicants must meet all the eligibility requirements and complete the application process, which includes an interview and an academic assessment. Applicants must be high school graduates or have a GED. They must also display good citizenship and be of good moral character. The program is free of charge and covers all materials needed by the students, including scrubs and state testing fees.

Once selected, participants will be required to pass a drug test, undergo a background check, start hepatitis shots and take the TB skin test. These steps are necessary due to patient contact and the requirements for the State Board Examination for Certified Nursing Assistant. Class size is limited to twenty.

During our 16 week program, students will divide their time between hours of classroom training and our nurse shadowing program, which is part of their clinical training. The location of clinical training is rotated between Gilmore Regional Medical Center and Pioneer Hospital. Upon completing the program, participants will take the state board examination for certification as a CNA and be immediately eligible for hire as a Certified Nurse Assistant.

The United Way Student Nursing Academy program is housed along with our Way to Work/Families First Resource Centers at 101 West Commerce Street in Aberdeen and our 119 South Main Street in Amory.





## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY ARTS ACROSS THE AGES PROGRAM



### Program Overview

The United Way of Greater Monroe County created the Arts Across the Ages Program to serve as a center for cultural, dramatic, and fine arts for children, youth and adults in Monroe County.

Arts Across the Ages is a broad based, multi-faceted program for artistic endeavors. We offer programs which encompass the entire realm of cultural and artistic expression. While we offer activities for all ages, our primary focus is children. In an area of the country in which sporting events and athletics often take center stage, our vision is to give equal opportunities for children and youth to maximize their achievement within the realm of The Arts.

All Arts Across the Ages Program activities are held at the United Way Families First Resource Center located at 119 South Main Street in Amory, MS. Our hours are Monday –Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and at other times by special arrangement. Many Arts Across the Ages activities are free of charge; however a small fee is collected for some classes to cover materials, supplies and refreshments.

Below is a very brief listing of just some of the many activities held and programs offered at the Arts Across the Ages/Families First Resource Center.

The Retired Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP) meets monthly at the Center to sew pillows, turbans, scarves and other items for the Monroe County Women First Cancer Support Center and for local nursing home and assisted living residents.

The RSVP group also prepares casseroles, desserts and other baked goods in the Center's kitchen area which are frozen to be used by Women First Cancer Center clients when they are unable to prepare food for their families due to illness from cancer treatments and medications.

Monthly meetings of Women First Amory chapter

Grandma's Kitchen (Senior Citizens share cooking and canning with youth)

Grandma's Sewing Room (Senior Citizens share basic sewing with youth)

Children/Youth art classes in various mediums (oils, watercolors, acrylic, clay, ceramic, stained glass, pottery)

Traveling Fine Art Exhibits of famous artists (Vincent Van Gogh)

Yearly Summer 2-week Art Camp with Reception and Exhibit

Teacher's Helper (youth day camp for teacher's children on in-service days)

Bird Watching/Birdhouse and bird bath building for youth

Around the World Program (students learn about cultures around the world through guest speaker, cuisine and art activities)

And much, much more...



**UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY  
ARTS ACROSS THE AGES PROGRAM**



**"Camp Grandma"**  
Grandma's Kitchen & Sewing Room



**Italy\* Iraq\* Japan\* Africa\* China\* Iceland\***

**Make your Way Around the World**



**The United "Weigh" Down Challenge**

Vincent Van Gogh Traveling Exhibit  
Art Exhibit of Camp Participants' Work  
&  
European Cuisine Tasting



**TEACHER'S HELPER  
Camp for Kids**



*Wire and Bead Jewelry Making Class*



**Mexico\* Pakistan\* China\* Iceland\***



## UNITED WAY OF GREATER MONROE COUNTY SCOUTING VENTURE GRANTS



### **Program Overview**

United Way of Greater Monroe County makes Scouting Venture Grants available to local scouting units in Monroe County. Scouting Venture Grants encourage participation in scouting in Monroe County by providing funds for camper ships, uniforms, and equipment.

### ***2006 Scouting Venture Grants Funding \$3,343.57***

#### **Boy Scout Pack 38-Aberdeen**

Number of Scouts: 27

Funded: \$1,005.00 - Uniforms, books, caps, flags and stands and camping equipment

#### **Boy Scout Troop 39-Aberdeen**

Number of Scouts: 12

Funded: \$800.00 – Tents and camping supplies

#### **Boys Scout Pack 56-Amory**

Number of Scouts: 28

Funded: \$460.00 – Uniforms, books and camper ships

#### **Boy Scout Troop 55-Amory**

Number of Scouts: 14

Funded: \$1,078.57 – Camper ships, camping equipment and Eagle Scout projects

### ***2007 Scouting Venture Grants Funding \$6,095.50***

#### **Boy Scout Pack 38-Aberdeen**

Number of Scouts: 27

Funded: \$1,500.50 - Uniforms, books, camper ships, Blue & Gold Banquet, coolers, camp kitchens, cook sets, lanterns and stove

#### **Boy Scout Troop 39-Aberdeen**

Number of Scouts: 16

Funded: \$800.00 – Lanterns, propane stoves and dining flies

#### **Boys Scout Pack 56-Amory**

Number of Scouts: 35

Funded: \$500.00 – Uniforms, books and camper ships

#### **Boy Scout Troop 55-Amory**

Number of Scouts: 19

Funded: \$1,200.00 – Uniforms, books, camper ships, backpacks, backpack equipment, dining flies, awards, patches and merit badge books

### ***2007 Scouting Venture Grants continued***

#### **Boy Scout Troop 11-Hamilton/Amory**

Number of Scouts: 11

Funded: \$1,000.00 – Compasses, backpacks, backpack equipment

**Girl Scout Troop 474-Aberdeen**

Number of Scouts: 7

Funded: \$500.00 – Uniforms, books, camper ships and project supplies

**Girl Scout Troop 771-Amory**

Number of Scouts: 7

Funded: \$595.00 – Uniform, book, activities and crafts, patches and awards

**2008 Scouting Venture Grants Funding \$3,680.00**

**Boy Scout Troop 39-Aberdeen**

Number of Scouts: 18

Funded: \$550.00 – Food warmers for fundraisers

**Boy Scout Troop 55-Amory**

Number of Scouts: 20

Funded: \$500.00 – Backpacking tents

**Boy Scout Troop 11-Hamilton/Amory**

Number of Scouts: 11

Funded: \$1,280.00 – Sleeping bags, Whisper-lite backpacking stoves

**Girl Scout Troop 474-Aberdeen**

Number of Scouts: 7

Funded: \$500.00 – Uniforms, books, camper ships, camping supplies, projects and activity expenses

**Girl Scout Troop 120-Amory**

Number of Scouts: 11

Funded: \$400.00 – Summer camp camper ships, activity expense

**Girl Scout Troop 139-Smithville**

Number of Scouts: 10

Funded: 500.00 – Uniforms, project and activity expense, summer camp camper ships

