

United Way readies campaign

Special to The Advocate

MORGANFIELD -Eighty United Way volunteers have completed the Community Investment process for the six-county area including: Daviess, Hancock, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster Counties. Volunteers from each county met to invest campaign dollars raised in the fall of 2013 for their respective counties. Volunteers invested in 74 agencies or programs that delivered well over 100,000 units of service to individuals across the region. United Way invests in programs that help children and youth achieve their potential; promote financial stability and independence; improve people's health; and provide assistance to people in times of crisis.

This year, Union County Community Investment volunteers funded seven programs totaling \$29,715 that support education for youth; three programs totaling \$16,300 that provide income supports for families and individuals; 14 programs totaling \$64,500 that foster health among Union County residents; and four programs totaling \$30,250 that provide services for those in crisis. Agencies began receiving funds in May this year.

"Union County is blessed with caring people who graciously give back to the community," said Paul Loxley, Community Investment Chair. "However, the needs are great and the work of the Community Investment panel remains challenging. "This is a long process entered into with great seriousness as our team of donor-volunteers makes these funding choices on behalf of our community." "We consider each agency's financial need for United Way support; the management strength of the agency; the community needs being met by the services of the agency; and the people who need those services," reported Mr. Loxley. "There is never enough money to meet all the needs presented to us by worthwhile, well-run health and human service agencies and we hope that more potential investors in Union County will see the importance of joining in this work as we prepare to kick off the 2014 United Way campaign here. When we all work together, great things can be accomplished."

The 2014 United Way campaign is beginning now. The 2014 Campaign Kickoff will be September 19 at 5:15 p.m. at the Renaissance Center during the Corn Festival. The 2014 Waller Award recipients will also be announced.

If you are interested in starting an employee campaign at your workplace, or if you would like to make an investment in your community, please contact Garrick Thompson, United Way Campaign Chair.