

[www.LIVEUNITED.us](http://www.LIVEUNITED.us)

## Message from the Board President



**Gloria Rader**  
2009 President

Give, Advocate, Volunteer. In 2009, the Ellis County community truly demonstrated what it means to LIVE UNITED.

As we may have expected, the year was economically challenging for many. In spite of these challenges, the individuals and businesses in Ellis County once again stepped up and supported the annual United Way campaign.

Through the combined efforts of many, we once again surpassed our campaign goal. I commend the 2009 Campaign Chair Ronan Sramek, Vice

Chair, Rhonda Meyerhoff and Campaign Assistant, Jeff Brull, for their passionate leadership. Their committed group of division chairs and dedicated volunteers helped to lead the efforts to another successful campaign. A special thanks to our Executive Director, Sue Rouse, and her assistants, Linda O'Neal and Connie Douglas. The staff's work both inside and outside the office remains crucial to a successful campaign.

In 2008, the United Way refined its three-year strategic

plan to help further facilitate the transition to Community Impact. Through this refinement, we outlined specific goals and actions we felt needed to be accomplished in 2009 and beyond to reach our vision. In 2009, The Board of Directors and staff of the United Way of Ellis County focused on enhancing the resource allocation process and expanding public relations.

As a result, this year's campaign team and board not only led a successful fundraising effort, they led a successful awareness and educational

campaign as well. Because of those efforts, our community is beginning to understand and embrace the Community Impact approach to facilitating change in our community, particularly during a difficult economic period.

In closing, I thank all of our volunteers, the leadership of the United Way Board of Directors and especially all of our generous donors. You are the United Way. Remember, as we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all, that's what it means to LIVE UNITED.

## Getting Ahead In A Just-Getting-By World

Kansas Kids Count 2008 data reports that 12% of children under 18 in Ellis County live below 100% of poverty. For a family of four in 2008, the poverty line for gross family income was \$20,120. Moving from poverty to economic stability can be done by understanding the rules of money, living simply and building the resources described in the work of Dr. Ruby Payne.

Funded by a Community Impact grant from the United Way of Ellis County, Hays Head Start and PATHS (Parents as Teachers/ Early Head Start) began the Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World program. Getting Ahead is for people on the lower rungs of the economic ladder. The course examines how poverty impacts participants individually along with the economic realities as they

develop their own plans to get out of poverty.

"Getting Ahead" participants investigate how the hidden rules of class can be used to build financial, emotional, social, and other resources. Understanding the hidden rules of the middle class and choosing to use them, can open doors to new relationships, new jobs, and higher resources. Participants develop a series of mental models to examine their own lives and create new future stories. The intended outcomes are for individuals and families from generational poverty to be able to function effectively in the middle class educational and employment settings, and for the community to provide the necessary supports so the participants can create their own plans to get out of poverty.

Fifteen participants completed the first course in 2009. At the end of the program, all the participants had the income and social supports to meet their basic needs. All of the participants had the skills to remain employed.

One participant commented that "she knew where she wanted to go, she didn't know how get there" until this program helped her develop the steps to change. Participants looked at where they needed to change and made plans for the future.

Grant funding will offer the program annually for three years. Every participant will be followed to evaluate outcomes. Participants will complete self-assessments as a measure of change.

Moving out of poverty improves the economic indicators for children. Positive changes in

economic indicators have positive impacts on the health and education indicators for children.





United Way of Ellis County

# Campaign Highlights

## A Message from Ronan Sramek, 2009 Campaign Chair

With much enthusiasm and thankfulness, I am pleased to report we exceeded the 2009 United Way of Ellis County Campaign goal for the eighth year in a row. We had a goal of \$467,000 and raised \$470,997. We realized this extraordinary result after many volunteers coordinated efforts over more than six months to spread the message in the Ellis County community about the importance of LIVING UNITED.

Our campaign this year was not only a monetary fund drive but a campaign of awareness as well. As the United Way begins to gain ground in its understanding of the Community Impact approach to facilitating change in our community and discerning how best to implement such strategies, we felt it important to begin to educate the public about the concept of Community Impact and how it is a strategy that best positions our community for long-lasting improvement for all of us.

We also used the campaign as a vehicle to inform the community that our member agencies rely on our community for support. Their efforts and survival do not occur by mere happenstance, but by the gracious giving and genuine interest of this community. And in the wake of a difficult economic period, these agencies face very real and sometimes devastating hits to their budgets. If we as a community want to see these agencies continue their very important programs, then we must help support them financially. It is our belief at United Way of Ellis County that the most effective way to do that is to join fundraising efforts on behalf of these organizations.

We accomplished our goal in 2009 so that the funding our member agencies requested for 2010 may be granted and so the United Way can continue

to extend monetary resources to non-member agencies through our Community Response and Community Impact grant processes.

I thank my Vice Chair, Rhonda Meyerhoff, Campaign Assistant, Jeff Brull, the Division Chairs, Board of Directors, Agencies and most of all, the donors in our community who came together and saw this vision through to completion. This level of giving is a superb expression of the heart of the people here in Ellis County, Kansas. I stand in awe at our accomplishment and am proud to be LIVING UNITED in Ellis County.



**Ronan Sramek**  
2009 Campaign Chair



### Thank You to our Special Contributors

- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Coffee Rules                    | Golden Q                             |
| Commerce Bank                   | Hays Chevrolet                       |
| Commercial Builders             | Hays Public Library                  |
| Commercial Signs                | Messiah Lutheran Church              |
| Eagle Communications, Inc.      | Nex-Tech                             |
| Eagle Community Television      | Northwestern Printers                |
| Ellis County Historical Society | Signs & Designs                      |
| Emprise Bank                    | Sunflower Bank                       |
| EnerSys                         | Sunflower Electric Power Corporation |
| First United Methodist Church   | Taco Shop                            |
| FHSU University Relations       | The Mall of Hays                     |

## Gold Award Winners

United Way of Ellis County recognizes the following companies and departments as Gold Award Winners. These organizations conducted an employee campaign with a minimum contribution of \$500 with either 100% employee participation or an average gift of \$25 per employee.

### Major Employers

- City of Hays
- City Manager/HR
- Finance/IT
- Fire Department
- Public Works Administration

### Dillons

- Eagle Communications, Inc.
- Ellis County

- Attorney
- Emergency Management
- Public Works
- Treasurer

### EnerSys

### FHSU

- Advanced Education Dept.
- Athletics
- Art Dept.
- Biological Sciences Dept.
- Budget and Planning Office
- Center for Teaching
- Excellence and Learning
- Technology

- Chemistry Dept.
- Communication Disorders Dept.
- Computing & Telecommunication Center
- Docking Institute of Public Affairs

- Geosciences Dept.
- Justice Studies Dept.
- Leadership Studies Dept.
- Management & Marketing Dept.

- Mathematics & Computer Science Dept.
- Memorial Union Staff
- Music Dept.
- Nursing Dept.
- Physics Dept.
- President's Office
- Provost/Assistant Provost's Office
- Registrar's Office

- Sociology & Social Work Dept.
- Student Fiscal Services
- Student Health Center
- Teacher Education Dept.
- Vice President's Office, Administration & Finance
- Vice President's Office, Student Affairs

- Hays Med
- Heartland Building Center
- High Plains Mental Health Center
- Insurance Planning, Inc.
- JC Penney Company
- McHays, Inc.
- Midwest Energy, Inc.
- NEW Corporation
- Nex-Tech, Inc.
- Nex-Tech Wireless
- Sunflower Electric Power Corp.
- Thomas More Prep-Marian High School
- Unified School District #489
- Felten Middle School
- Hays Area Children's Center
- Hays Head Start
- Hays High School
- Lincoln Elementary School
- O'Loughlin Elementary

- Rockwell Administration Center
- Wilson Elementary School
- United Parcel Service Warehouse, Inc.
- Small Business Employers
- Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball Bank of America
- Bank of Hays
- Brungardt Hower Ward Elliott and Pfeifer
- Commerce Bank
- DaMar Resources
- Dean Ellner Inc. Real Estate
- Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development
- Emprise Bank
- Equity Bank
- First National Bank
- Golden Belt Bank
- Hays Area Children's Center
- Holy Family Elementary School
- James Motor Company
- Keller Furniture Galleries
- Lewis Chrysler
- Mortgage Sources
- Northwestern Printers
- Sunflower Bank
- United Way of Ellis County
- VSR Financial Services

### 2009 Campaign Cabinet

- Rhonda Meyerhoff, Vice Chair
- Jeff Brull, Campaign Assistant

#### Education Division

- Donna Hudson-Hamilton, USD 489
- Heather Sramek, TMP-Marian High School

#### Finance Division

- Michelle Werth, Mortgage Sources
- Trish Sauer, Emprise Bank

#### Government Division

- Bill Ring, Ellis County Emergency Management

#### Heritage Society

- U.S. Congressman Jerry Moran

#### Major Employers Division

- Bryce Young, Hays Med

#### Online Auction

- Lisa Scheve, Sunflower Bank

#### Pacesetter Division

- Nikki Pfannenstiel, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation

#### Professional Division

- Lance Albin, Commerce Bank

#### Retail Division

- Donna Maskus, Ellis County Clerk's Office
- Pam Joy, Dreiling Bieker & Hoffman

#### Service Division

- Jeff Wick, Nex-Tech, Inc.

#### Small Business Division

- Tara Garcia, Hays Med
- Joe Lohmeyer, Eagle Communications, Inc.

## 2009 Volunteers

Gary Aufdemberge	Patty Nicholas
Susie Billinger	Judy Parks
Debbie Braun	Donnetta Pfeifer
Les Brown	Andrea Roberts
Michelle Callahan	Tom Robinson
Brandon Cooley	Ruth Ruder
Sharon Dreher	Valery Rule
Jessica Elsen	Elizabeth Rupp
Merle Fager	Jayne Rupp
Randi Gerstner	Desiree Ruth
Robbie Graf	Mary Sauer
Carol Haberman	Patricia Scheve
Theresa Hammerschmidt	Eric Schibi
Charlotte Harbert	Lois Schuetz
Jeremy Herl	Shane Smith
Lori Hoverson	Claudia Stremel
Corrina Hudsonpillar	Cindy Suppes
Carol Legleiter	BoB Templeton
Taryn Leiker	Kay Unruh
Maxine Lindsay	Miranda Watkins
Joe Lohmeyer	Mitch Weber
The Bryan Lowery Family	Sabrina William
Kristie May	Sandy Wilson
Dru Miller	

**Thank You!**

## 2009 Community Response Grants

Citizen Review Board	
General support	\$1,500
Ellis County Ministerial Alliance	
Thanksgiving Feast	\$ 500
Foundation for Educational Excellence at USD #489	
Rachel's Challenge at Felten Middle School	\$2,500
Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County	
Equipment for ReStore	\$3,500
Hays Area Children's Center	
Telephone system upgrade	\$7,500
Salvation Army	
Matching grant for emergency assistance	\$5,500

## 2009 Community Impact Grants

DREAM, Inc.	
Program for Ellis youth	\$5,100
Ellis County Ministerial Alliance	
Rent and utility assistance	\$8,000
Dave Ramsey Total Money Makeover	\$1,900
Financial Literacy	\$344
First Call for Help	
Education and Prevention Program	\$8,000
First Care Clinic	
Pharmacy Assistance	\$11,250
Hays Area Children's Center	
Spanish language training	\$3,100
Hays Head Start	
Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World	\$5,702
Northwest Kansas Community Corrections	
Housing Assistance	\$13,545

## 2010 Agency Allocations

First Call for Help	\$46,780.00
Information & Referral/Emergency Aid	\$18,180.00
Education & Prevention	\$20,780.00
Backpacks for Kids	\$3,000.00
Meals on Wheels	\$4,820.00
Hays Area Children's Center	\$35,000.00
Infant/Toddler Early Intervention	
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ellis County	\$28,000.00
Community/School-Based Mentoring	
Ellis County Chapter of the American Red Cross	\$26,000.00
Health & Safety Services	\$11,600.00
Disaster Services	\$14,400.00
Cancer Council of Ellis County	\$22,500.00
Nutritional Supplement	\$1,500.00
Finance Assistance	\$20,000.00
Sunscreen Education Program	\$1,000.00
WKACD	\$20,000.00
Transportaiton to Work	
Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas	\$20,000.00
Job Follow-Along Program	
CASA of the High Plains	\$17,000.00
NW Ks Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, Inc	\$11,370.00
Safe Shelter	\$5,250.00
24 hr Crisis Line Services	\$6,120.00
Catholic Charities	\$11,200.00
Counseling	\$7,000.00
Citizenship & Immigration Services	\$4,200.00
Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland-Sunflower Region	\$10,000.00
Youth Development	
United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas	\$8,000.00
Support Services in Ellis County	
Kansas Legal Services	\$7,500.00
Domestic Violence Program	
Parents and Children Together	\$4,650.00
Parent Education Classes	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$268,000.00</b>

## 2009 Profit and Loss Statement (unaudited)

Income	
Net Campaign Income.....	\$453,171.00
Interest Income.....	\$4,051.00
In Kind.....	\$7,838.00
Total Income.....	\$465,060.00
Expenses	
Administration.....	\$71,017.00
Program.....	\$303,130.00
Fund-raising.....	\$13,812.00
United Way of America dues.....	\$4,600.00
Depreciation.....	\$871.00
Total Expense.....	\$393,430.00
Net Income.....	\$71,630.00

## 2009 CARE Council

Chandra Daffer, Co-Chair  
Rhonda Meyerhoff, Co-Chair

### City of Hays

Gary Aufdemberge  
Linda Dewey  
John Scheck  
Kay Unruh

### Ellis County

Deb King  
Dr. Kathryn McGonigal  
Dustin Schlaefli  
Matt Stucklik

### United Way

Tara Garcia  
Bob Gillen  
Raymond Haas  
Pam Joy



United Way of Ellis County

# Leadership Giving

## 2009 Heritage Society Donors

Heritage Society Donors contribute at least \$500 to United Way of Ellis County's campaign. Their commitment to our community is vital to the success of the campaign and United Way's ability to help improve people's lives. We thank the Heritage Society Donors listed and those that have chosen to remain anonymous for helping our community LIVE UNITED. Heritage Society donations totaled over \$151,000.00 in 2009.

### Platinum Level (\$1500 and up)

Two Anonymous Donors  
D.G. & Millie Bickle  
John & Jayne Clark  
Dennis & Susy Hahn  
Randy & Terry Kilian  
Earnest & Lara Lehman  
Tom & Janette Meis  
Pat & Chardelle Parke  
Paul & Patricia Phillips  
Robert & Pat Schmidt  
Tim & Sandee Werth

### Gold Level (\$1000-\$1499)

Anonymous Donor  
Daryl & Corina Beam  
Ken & Barbara Beran  
Tim & Susan Bickle  
Mike & Diane Briney  
Kent & Lisa Colwell  
Gary & LuAnn Geist  
Dale Gottschalk  
Mike & Robbie Graf  
Doug & Carol Haberman  
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Dan & Judy Nixon  
Patricia Norris  
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Kurt & Julie Rider  
Andy & Kathy Rupp  
Thomas & Debra Schumacher  
Gary & Mary Ann Shorman  
Ronald & Susan Speier  
Richard & Amy Webb  
Dick & Kay Werth  
Bruce & Stephanie Whittington  
Jeff & Tina Wick  
Noman & Elizabeth Williams

### Silver Level (\$750-\$999)

Two Anonymous Donors  
Dale & Sherry Chaffin  
Lonny & Becky Claycamp  
Stephen & Jana Donnelly  
Ron Fahey & Amy Finch  
Mike & Jennifer Fields  
Elmer & LaVonne Finck  
Larry & Judy Getty  
Mitch & Kelli Harris  
Jeff and Shari Hertel  
Mark & Mary Jo Karleskint  
Jim & Luanne Kramer  
Shannon Lashbrook  
Todd & Kim Meier  
Mike & Jeanie Michaelis  
Neil & Thelma Nickelson  
Dennis Radford  
Steve Riat  
Bill & Denise Ring  
Dustin & Kristy Schlaefli  
Lance Smith  
Ronan & Heather Sramek  
Brad & Lisa Unrein  
Wayne & GeraLou Woofter  
Brett & Julie Zollinger

### Bronze Level (\$500-\$749)

Four Anonymous Donors  
Mike & Jill Arensdorf  
Patty Baconrind  
Bob & Sandra Bainter  
Rex & Debbie Ball  
Jim & Pat Bartels  
Robert & Martha Boardman  
Jim & Deborah Braun  
John Braun  
Jerry & Bevra Brinkman  
Paul Briseno  
Les & Julie Brown  
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Ron & Debra Wente  
Bob & Nancy Wertenberger  
Randy & Michelle Werth  
Brett Whitaker  
Lonnie Wise  
Theresa Wise  
Bryce & Carol Young  
Josh & Shauna Zweifel

### 2009 Board of Directors

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*Golden Plains Credit Union*  
Chandra Daffer, Vice President  
*FHSU*  
Mark Lang, Secretary  
*USDA Rural Development*  
Brian Spurgeon, Treasurer  
*Nex-Tech Wireless*  
Ronan Sramek, Campaign Chair  
*Sunflower Bank*  
Travis Kohlrus, Past President  
*Eagle Communications, Inc.*  
Chris Burger  
*NEW Corporation*  
Jeff Brull  
*Coldwell Banker Executive Realty*  
Wayne DeBusk  
*EnerSys*  
Kyle Ermoian  
*Celebration Community Church*  
Tara Garcia  
*Hays Med*  
Dr. Bob Gillen  
*KSU Ag Research Center*  
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*Nex-Tech, Inc.*  
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718 Main, Suite 206  
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tel. 785-628-8281  
fax 785-628-8287  
email: unitedway@media-net.net  
www.liveunited.us

Executive Director:  
Sue Rouse  
Administrative Assistant:  
Connie Douglas

Positively impacting lives by strategically channeling community resources.

### Top 10 Donors 2009

*In alphabetical order*  
Eagle Communications, Inc  
EnerSys  
Fort Hays State University  
Hays Med  
Midwest Energy  
NEW Corporation  
Nex-Tech, Inc.  
Sunflower Bank  
USD 489  
Wal-Mart