



LIVE UNITED is a credo, a mission, a goal. It's a constant reminder that when we as individuals think outside ourselves, we have the power to facilitate change. When we think of others' lives as linked to our own, our compassion grows. When we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all. We build the strength of our neighborhoods. We bolster the health of our communities. And we change the lives of those who walk by us every day.

Together, united, we can inspire hope and create opportunities for a better tomorrow. Living united means being a part of the change. It's already July, and we are halfway through the year, here at United Way we have been busy making positive impactful changes in Nevada County.

### What's happening at United Way of Nevada County:

- ✦ United Way of Nevada County held elections for its new Executive Committee in June. United Way of Nevada Counties 2017-2018 Board President is Diana Bare, Vice President is Anna Crocket, Secretary is Joanne Weatherly, and Board Treasurer is Mondae Hott. Three new Board members were elected to the United Way Board in May; Greg Michna, Jim Belluomini, and Mondae Hott. The United Way Board of Directors is a dedicated and hard working group of volunteers. A new Executive Committee is elected each year and each appointee must be a member of the board of directors.
- ✦ In May United Way of Nevada County started a brand new food distribution program. The program is called Food Access Saturday. You can learn more about this great new program on page two of this publication.
- ✦ United Way of Nevada County allocated funds to its partner agencies at funding night in May. Funds were allocated specifically with the service priority in mind to strive to assure that individuals and families in Nevada County are able to meet their basic needs for food, emergency shelter and access to healthcare. United Way currently has 15 partner agencies, 8 of which were allocated funding this year.
- ✦ Staff and Volunteers are busily working on the 11th annual BBQ event "Grills 'n' Grilles". This year's event will be held on August 26th at Western Gateway Park in Penn Valley. For more details visit [www.grillsngrilles.org](http://www.grillsngrilles.org) and see page two of this publication.

Just around the corner is the upcoming 2017 United Way campaign. Businesses from all over the world are involved with the United Way campaign. Locally we have national and local businesses that get involved and give back to the community. If you are interested in learning more about United Way campaigns, or know of a business that might want to get involved call our office for more information. A big Thank You goes out to all the businesses that have continued to be a part of supporting the United Way of Nevada County.

Contact United Way if you are looking for opportunities to get involved and give back to the wonderful community we live in.



Present and past Board Members: (left to right) Mondae Hott, Treasurer; Greg Michna; Anna Crockett, Vice President; Joanne Weatherly, Secretary; out going President, Carol Jonas; Jim Belluomini; and Diana Bare, President.

**Have a great summer!**



**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED**

## **NEWS FROM UNITED WAY OF NEVADA COUNTY...**

### **Grills 'n' Grilles on August 26th, 2017 ~ Come out and join the fun!**

Mark your calendar for August 26th, 2017! This year marks the 11<sup>th</sup> year that United Way of Nevada County will hold it's barbecue fundraiser and car show "Grills 'n' Grilles". Three years ago, United Way incorporated a Kansas City Barbecue Society sanctioned competition and a memorial disc golf tournament to this great event. KCBS teams will be competing with one another for cash prizes and the opportunity to move up in the ranks for the chance to be the KCBS Team of the Year. Local Backyard BBQ teams will be competing for awards.

During this event, United Way will also be holding the 8th annual Car & Motorcycle Show and the 3rd annual Derek Sorensen Memorial Disc Golf Tournament. Enjoy some delicious food while listening to music. There will be a children's area, vendors and beer and wine. Fun for the entire family!

Disc golf players can register the day of the tournament from 8:00am-9:15am; for more information contact Woody at (530) 272-4400. Sign up your BBQ team, car or motorcycle to compete or become a vendor or sponsor! Call 274-8111 or visit [www.grillsngrilles.org](http://www.grillsngrilles.org).

**Hope you were able to make it. It was hot, but so much fun!**



Last year's Car Show winner!

### **United Way's New Program ~ Food Access Saturday *Uniting to Support Working Families***

United Way of Nevada County, in collaboration with Interfaith Food Ministry (IFM) and the Food Bank of Nevada County, recently initiated a new food distribution program. For those who work during the week, and are unable to get much-needed supplemental food at local food pantries, this new program offers food distribution on the second Saturday of each month at 440 Henderson St. in Grass Valley. United Way strives to assure that individuals and families in Nevada County are able to meet their basic need for food, emergency shelter, and access to health care.

Any working individuals & families who need food can participate. Current IFM clients who work during the week are welcome to substitute Saturday in place of the normal Monday, Wednesday or Friday distribution, provided it is a week they are eligible to receive groceries. New clients will need to provide a picture ID, proof of residency in Nevada County and Social Security numbers for all those in the family.

United Way strives to assure that individuals and families in Nevada County are able to meet their basic need for food, emergency shelter, and access to health care. For more information contact United Way at (530) 274-8111 or [admin@uwnc.org](mailto:admin@uwnc.org).



### **United Way's 9th Annual Day of Action ~ *Lending a hand in the Community***

United Way of Nevada County held it's 9th annual Day of Action on June 1. Many generous volunteers helped make the event a huge success. Volunteers painted office walls at Hospitality House and helped out at the Food Bank of Nevada County, in the warehouse and the garden.

A diverse group of volunteers joined in on this wonderful day of volunteering. Along with the many adults that participated, Bitney Prep students also helped make the day a success. Company employees from businesses such as Telestream showed up to help non-profits in the community with their special projects.

Day of Action is a nationwide United Way event with thousands of people coming out to make a difference in their communities. Every year, volunteers give back to those nonprofit agencies that do so much for so many all through the year.



***United Way of Nevada County's Mission: To improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our community.***

# UNITED WAY FOCUSES ON THE BASIC NEED OF EMERGENCY SHELTER:

## **A Caring Community Created a Homeless Shelter ~ Hospitality House By Debbie McDonald, Development Director**

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*Hospitality House is a new United Way partner agency.*

In the wet, cold winter of 2004, a group of concerned residents, including folk singer Utah Phillips, gathered to discuss their dream of helping the many homeless people in western Nevada County by providing shelter and food during the winter months. For the next eight years, Hospitality House operated as a “nomadic” shelter. Different local churches opened their doors every night of the week to men, women and children seeking shelter and food. In 2014, Utah’s Place, the Hospitality House permanent shelter facility, opened to offer pathways to housing. Since then, Hospitality House has helped move 100 people per year back into a home of their own—that’s one person every four days.

job as a cook at a high-end Nevada City restaurant. Since her arrival at Hospitality House, she has graduated from a job-training program, enrolled Ayden in preschool, obtained a job and moved into a place of their own.

Four-year-old Ayden has lived in six different “homes” in his young life, most recently at Hospitality House. His mom, Ashley, did the hard work of getting clean while living with him in a garage. When she arrived drug-free at Hospitality House, Ashley was ready to create a new life for Ayden.



Building a goal-oriented plan to secure employment was the first step. To that end, Ashley spent six weeks in the comprehensive Hospitality House culinary job-skills program. “This is the first thing that I can say that I have accomplished and been able to finish—not only for me but for my son,” explains Ashley. “The shelter has given me and Ayden the structure and stability we needed.” Her newfound culinary skills enabled Ashley to land a

## **Community Beyond Violence, Formerly DVSAAC By Nancy Ramsey, Associate Director of Programs**

*Community Beyond Violence has been a United Way partner for twenty-four years. They recently changed their name from DVSAAC.*

We received a call on the Crisis Line from an agency that rescues trafficking victims. They had a young woman they needed to place in a Shelter Program. Although normally a 90 day emergency Shelter Program, exceptions are made for particularly traumatized people. Cindy’s long and tragic life left her unable to trust or feel safe any where, because of this we made an exception for her to stay longer.

county and community agencies to discuss how best to address her many challenges.

She came to us very dependent on her dog to keep people away from her since they tended to be frightened of him. She needed medication refills and we worked with another state and local sources to obtain them for her, along with a birth certificate and eventually SSDI. Cindy had attempted suicide on numerous occasions in the past; her daily talks with Staff were her lifeline. Staff transported her to martial arts three times a week where she began to feel more empowered. She was eventually able to let her dog go, since he also kept her from interactions with kind people. We pulled together several

Cindy relentlessly pursued any avenue she felt would best support her: from refusing talk therapy, but embracing play therapy, from wanting to attend a specialized wilderness program for trauma survivors, to figuring out how to first obtain an electric bike and then a car. Without her strong will to live, coupled with individuals and agencies in our community who assisted her along the way, Cindy would never have made it. She now lives in her own small place, has a friendly dog, and continues to work on healing, checking in with Community Beyond Violence Advocate Counselors as needed.

## **Tahoe Safe Alliance By Paul Bancroft, Executive Director**

*Tahoe Safe Alliance has been a United Way partner for over thirteen years.*

Our Safe House provided an opportunity for one Nevada County woman to leave an abusive relationship after fifty years of marriage. The woman moved in the Safe House on October 1, 2016 and stayed for three months before transitioning out. She had come to the Truckee office several times to meet with an advocate before deciding to flee from her abuser and enter the safe house.

She indicated that the housing, therapy and support were important to her transition to her new life. She has continued to work with the staff on follow up care.

Staff in our residential program supported her in setting and prioritizing short term and long term goals. Once a week, she participated in case management where staff would assist her in filling out applications for housing rentals and credit checks. Our residential staff provided transportation, accompaniment, and advocacy at Nevada County Human Services and Senior Citizen's apartments. Residential staff provided domestic violence education and peer counseling throughout her time in the shelter. In addition, she received therapy from a Marriage and Family Therapist during her stay. She was able to transition to a new life, and transition from the safe house to her own housing, free from the threat of violence.



### **UWNC Partner Agencies**

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Community Beyond Violence           | Nevada County Habitat for Humanity    |
| Food Bank of Nevada County          | Partners in English Language Learning |
| FREED Center for Independent Living | Sierra Foothill AIDS Foundation       |
| Gold Country Community Services     | Sierra Forever Families               |
| Hospice of the Foothills            | Sierra Nevada Children’s Services     |
| Hospitality House                   | Sierra Senior Services                |
| Interfaith Food Ministry            | Tahoe Safe Alliance                   |
| Kara Crisis Nursery                 |                                       |

United Way of Nevada County  
P.O. Box 2733  
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United Way of Nevada County  
274-8111 ~ [admin@uwnc.org](mailto:admin@uwnc.org) ~ [www.uwnc.org](http://www.uwnc.org)  
*All proceeds from this event benefit non-profits in Nevada County*

\*Some limitations apply; passes exp. 7/3/19  
(Blackout period: 12/25-12/31 any year)  
\*\*Transportation & Accommodations up to \$1000

**Disneyland Getaway Raffle**

Enter to win a 2day/3night getaway to Anaheim, California & Disneyland! Includes four 1-day Disney park hopper passes, airfare (for 2), airport shuttle and 3 nights' accommodations. Estimated value is over \$1600. Tickets available soon and during our Grills 'n' Grilles event. Drawing to be held November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. For more information, contact United Way at 274-8111 or [admin@uwnc.org](mailto:admin@uwnc.org)

**Save the date: 9/28 Evening Out at Bistro 221**

Dine at Bistro 221 in Nevada City on Thursday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> and a portion of the proceeds will go to United Way of Nevada County. Location: 221 Broad St., Nevada City Call 265-0221 to make reservations.

A big THANKS to Jim Adams and Ray Morgan Company for helping with our newsletter printing needs for nearly 9 years.



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**Volunteer Recruitment**

United Way of Nevada County is currently seeking volunteers who represent a cross-section of our county to help make impactful change in our community. Volunteers are needed to participate in special committees and to help plan fundraising events. United Way is also looking for candidates to be on the Board of Directors.

To find out how your enthusiasm, passion and skills can help United Way of Nevada County grow and strengthen, contact our Executive Director, Megan Timpany, at 530-274-8111 or [director@uwnc.org](mailto:director@uwnc.org)