



United Way at Work in Sullivan

The Franklin County Area United Way "family" is comprised of 54 member agencies and programs that reach out across the county to improve lives in 35 cities, including Sullivan. One of the southernmost cities in Franklin County, Sullivan straddles the county line and spills over into Crawford County. This often generates the question: Will United Way help me if I live in Crawford County rather than Franklin County? The answer to that question is yes - if you live in the Sullivan School District. Franklin County Area United Way serves the residents of all the Franklin County school districts - even those that cross county lines like Sullivan. In fact, in 2014, over 10% of the total amount allocated by FCAUW came back to the Sullivan area! Thirty-four different agencies provided services to improve the lives of 7,141 Sullivan area residents.

Four United Way member agencies are located in Sullivan: Empac Group, Inc., Sullivan Senior Center, Sullivan Emergency Assistance Fund, and the Meramec Community Mission. Empac Group, Inc., previously Sheltered Industries of Meramec Valley, provides facility and community based employment services for individuals with disabilities. There are currently about 125 clients working in the Sullivan facility. The Sullivan Emergency Assistance Fund is operated by a group of elderly ladies with a heart for folks who are down on their luck. For over 30 years the Sullivan Emergency Assistance Fund has been providing funds to families in the Sullivan School District facing emergency situations such as utility disconnection, eviction or inability to purchase heating fuel. The smallest center in Franklin County, the Sullivan Senior Center provides hot meals and fun activities five days a week for area seniors. They also deliver frozen meals to 53 homebound residents once a week. Meramec Community Mission has undergone a major facelift and internal improvements over the last several years. They currently operate both a food pantry and a thrift store and provide emergency assistance to families struggling to make ends meet. These four agencies do a lot to improve lives in and around Sullivan, and they rely heavily on Franklin County Area United Way funding to do it.

While it is true that corporations and companies - especially those that offer payroll deduction for their employees - are the backbone of the United Way campaign, the special events that take place year round throughout the county certainly contribute substantially toward reaching that annual goal. Two significant FCAUW fundraisers are the annual Golf Tournament and the Door-to-Door Drive. Together they raised \$24,000 in 2014. The Power of the Purse events last year generated nearly \$50,000 toward our \$1,030,000 campaign goal.

On April 30, a group of community-minded ladies will be hosting a Power of the Purse event in Sullivan. Power of the Purse events have been taking place in various Franklin County cities since 2004, but this will be the first time one has been held in Sullivan. The purse committee hopes that this event will serve to educate the community about the good that United Way does in the Sullivan area. It will also give Sullivan women the opportunity to participate with FCAUW to improve lives and have a great time doing it.

Thought for the Day

"Children are great imitators, so give them something to imitate."

- Unknown

Upcoming Power of the Purse Events

April 30th - Sullivan
- Sullivan Eagles Hall
- Thursday - 5:30 p.m.

June 4th - St. Clair
- Holy Trinity Christian Life Center
- Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

For details or tickets, call the Franklin County Area United Way office at 636-239-1018.

United With You

Thank you for being a part of the Franklin County Area United Way. The goal of our newsletter is to show how your donations improve lives in Franklin County every day. Please let us know if you have any ideas for helping us share the newsletter.



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