

Greater Mankato Area United Way eNewsletter

November 30, 2007



101 N. 2nd Street #100
Mankato, MN 56001
www.mankatounitedway.org

Your Gift in Action American Red Cross



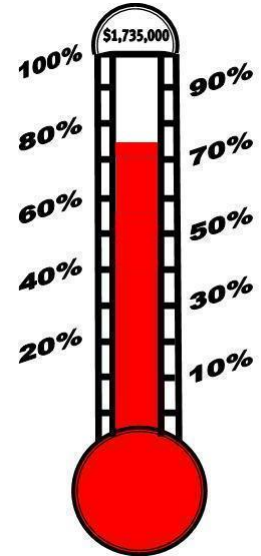
What if you stepped outside of your home and this is what it looked like? At our Campaign Kickoff event in September, Mary Kreykes talked emotionally about how her family's life was suddenly changed last August when a tornado tore apart her St. Peter home. Mary and her son only made it to the third step of the basement before the tornado blew away the entire house all around them. Despite the sound of hissing gas and Mary's pleading that her son get out of the house to save himself, he stayed to dig and pull her out from under the debris. Mary tells the story of how, as they waited days with their friends and relatives to be able to start with the clean-up efforts, they were comforted with the daily visits and support of Bob Meyer with the American Red Cross. They were there right after the tornado, checking in on them to make sure they were okay and that they had everything they needed. Two and three times a day Bob and the Red Cross came by to talk, to listen, to provide support and ask

Campaign Progress

2008 Goal: \$ 1,735,000
Pledges to-date: \$ 1,282,727
Percent of Goal: 74%

New Corporate Pledges Received

Alltel Wireless
Alpha Wireless Communications
AmeriPride Services
Austin's Auto Repair Center
BENCO Electric
Blackman Motors
CHS, Inc.
Coldwell Banker Commercial
Community Bank
Dotson Company
General Growth
HickoryTech
Johnson Outdoors
Jones Metal Products
Kitchenmaster & Company
Lowe's
Mankato Clinic
Professional Credit Analysts of Minnesota
Quality 1-Hour Photo
Schmidt Siding & Window Company
ShopKo
Star Trailer Sales
Tire Associates Warehouse
Voyager Bank



Company Rally Spotlight: Precision Press

ECL Beth Kleist shared with excitement the great things Precision Press has done this year as part of their United Way rallies. Along with a dunk tank at the company picnic (managers were the targets, of course!) and a drawing for vacation days, employees could purchase buttons like the one pictured here. All proceeds went to the United Way and employees wearing the buttons are able to dress casual for the whole month of December...now that's casual for a cause!



And what's more, Precision Press's employees really came through with a 32% increase in pledging over last year, for a new total of over \$29,000!
Thanks Precision Press!

what the Kreykes family needed. They provided the Kreykes family with emergency money and first aid kits, but most importantly, Mary says, they provided emotional support.

Mary says her family is so grateful that the American Red Cross was there for them when they needed them. She says that she never gave the United Way fundraising campaign much thought but as she passed out United Way pledge cards to her co-workers this year her message was strong: You or someone you know *will* be touched by a United Way funded agency. Mary and her family experienced first-hand how an event can unexpectedly change your life and how vital it is for community support to be there when something happens. As for an update to Mary's story? Last night they spent the first night in their new home, built on the foundation of the home they lost last year.

Pledges in? Paperwork time!



Now that your employee rallies are wrapped up, you may feel relieved that you've successfully completed another United Way campaign...**BUT WAIT!** We've set an aggressive target to reach our campaign goal by the end of the year. That means, we need your results as soon as they're available! Just give us a call to have us come pick up your packet, or swing by and drop it off at our office. Let's go for the goal!

Company Rally Spotlight: CHS

CHS's ECL Diane Reasner had exciting news for us this year: CHS launched a program to help give back more to communities. For every \$1 raised by its locations, CHS would provide a \$1.25 matching corporate contribution! This really got Diane and the local employees motivated, and as a result they set a challenging goal for themselves to raise \$7,500 in employee contributions.

Well CHS employees exceeded that goal, raising a total of nearly \$8,000 (which is an increase of over 18% over last year!). Together with the corporate match, CHS and its employees is contributing nearly \$28,000 to our United Way's 2008 campaign!

Thank you to everyone at CHS for your efforts and for continuing your stewardship heritage right here in our community.

Employee Rally Spotlight: Local Government sector

With a combined increase of nearly 18%, employees within the local government sector made a generous contribution to our United Way campaign of nearly \$34,000. Thank you to the employees of Blue Earth County, the City of Mankato and the City of North Mankato for your investment in our community!

Corporate Gift Spotlight: Lowe's

As a new business in our community, Lowe's expressed their belief in improving the communities they're in with a corporate donation to our United Way. We thank Lowe's for their contribution and their commitment to employee involvement in United Way campaigns!



2007 Heart Club

Miss your chance to see the 2007 Heart Club listing? No problem. Check out our website at www.mankatounitedway.org to view a complete listing of both the individual and corporate 2007 Heart Club givers.