



# YOUR CONNECTION



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July 2008

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## SETTING THE PACE



United Way of Pitt County will officially begin its 2008 fundraising campaign on July 8th as seven companies kickoff the Pacesetter Campaign and “set the pace” for the general campaign. By conducting early and ambitious campaigns, Pacesetter organizations jump-start United Way's annual campaign, raising new dollars to create opportunities to improve the quality of life for all Pitt County residents. This year, United

Way of Pitt County has set an ambitious goal of raising just over \$2 million to address Pitt County's most pressing

**2008 Pacesetters**  
 City of Greenville  
 FedEx  
 Greenville Utilities Commission  
 NACCO Materials Handling Group  
 Pitt County Government  
 Pitt County Memorial Hospital  
 The Daily Reflector

needs. The Pacesetter Kickoff will be held on Tuesday, July 8th in the Gallery Room at City Hall and the cost to attend is \$10.00,

which includes lunch. UWPC will announce both the Pacesetter goal and overall Campaign Goal for 2008, recognize participating Pacesetter CEO's and campaign coordinators, and recognize the 2008 Campaign Cabinet. Jill Cox, from United Way of North Carolina will provide the keynote address. For more information about how you can join in on the fun, contact Lindsey Brown at (252) 758-1604, ext. 209.

## A United Day for United Way

### Locally Owned Business Unite!

**On Saturday, August 9th, 2008, locally owned businesses are uniting to support United Way! 10% of each participating store, restaurant, or business's gross sales for the day will go to support United Way of Pitt County. This is a great opportunity to improve lives while earning recognition for your community service!**

**For more information on how to participate, contact Lindsey Brown at (252) 758-1604, ext. 209.**

## CAMPAIGN CORNER

United Way of Pitt County is pleased to announce the newest members to join the 2008 Campaign Cabinet. Dr. Marcus Albernaz of Eastern Carolina ENT has agreed to serve as the Professional Division Chair, and John Peter Valiulus of NACCO Materials Handling Group has agreed to serve as the Manufacturing Division Chair. "Their tremendous knowledge about their specific divisions and their commitment to success will be a great asset to this year's Campaign Cabinet," said Lindsey Brown, Director of Resource Development for UWPC.

## NOMINATIONS STILL BEING ACCEPTED FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

The United Way of Pitt County is still accepting nominations for the 2008 North Carolina Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service, managed by the North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the program that showcases North Carolina's most dedicated volunteers. Through the years, North Carolinians have proven their concern and compassion for their neighbors by volunteering in their local communities.

Any individual, group, business or organization that has completed substantial community service activity in the past year is eligible for nomination.

Nominees are judged on their time commitment, ac-

complishments and the impact of their service.

Service projects should address a community need and/or enhance the quality of life of North Carolinians, as well as demonstrate generosity and kindness.

A four-part nomination form must be completed to nominate a person or group for

the award. Completed forms will be examined by a volunteer committee. Five volunteers will be chosen for local recognition and one winner's name will be submitted to the NC Commission to be considered for the state-wide Medallion Award.

Persons may not nominate themselves, family members, spouses, winners from the past ten years or those completing court-mandated or paid services.

Forms are available at the UWPC office (1020 Red Banks Rd., Suite 201) or by contacting Dollie Lucas, UWPC director of donor relations, at 252-758-1604 x206, [dlucas@uwpcnc.org](mailto:dlucas@uwpcnc.org).

Forms are due to UWPC by 5 p.m., July 18th.

## LOOK WHO'S NEW... JENNIFER SHEPPARD JOINS UWPC

Jennifer Sheppard has been named the new Administrative Assistant for UWPC.

Jennifer is a Raleigh native who graduated from East Carolina University in May 2008 with a B.A. in English and Communication, with a concentration in technical writing and print journalism. While pursuing her undergraduate degree she participated in the East Carolina University Marching Pirates, Circle K and Lambda Theta Alpha Sorority. She is currently pursuing a Master's in Technical and Professional Communication from ECU and plans to graduate in 2010. Some of her hobbies include volunteering, writing and musical performance.

Jennifer will fill a much needed role at United Way, and is exciting about this new opportunity. "As a

recent college graduate with several possibilities for employment, I chose United Way because I believe in what United Way stands for. Ever since I was a child my family has encouraged helping those in need, rather it be in monetary value, donation of time and service or otherwise. I've been in service clubs such as Girl Scouts of America and Circle K since I can remember. Helping people just seems natural and I wanted to work somewhere where I can not only make a difference in the office, but in my community."



## HOW I LIVE UNITED

My name is Linda. As a nurse, I have dedicated my professional career to the service of others. I have been blessed with a successful career, a beautiful family, and a wide circle of friends. Throughout my life, I have seen the power of helping hands working together to lift up the less fortunate. As I look at my life, at the community I live in, and the needs of others, I say thanks every day that I have been given the opportunity to help others. Because I have been given so much, I have committed to teach my children the joy of giving and instill in them the value of service to others. We started a tradition in my home. Every year my daughter selects a charity for her birthday. Instead of getting presents, her

guests bring things from the charity wish list and she and I go on a field trip



Linda Hofler has been an active member of the Board of Trustees since 2005, and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Community Action Plan Cabinet.

to deliver her donations. It has been a powerful

lesson for her and an inspiration for her friends. It is my hope that she will use this life lesson as she grows into a young woman and has the opportunity to share with others. I give my "fair share" to the United Way because I believe in the power of role modeling to others. I believe that one person really can make a difference. My service to the United Way has helped me see how very great an impact people working toward a common goal can make when we are committed to advancing the common good. Whether I am collecting donations, advocating in the community or making a referral for a United Way agency, I am using the gifts that I have been given to the service of others. That's how I LIVE UNITED.

## YOUR CONNECTION

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This newsletter will also be available online at [www.uwpcnc.org](http://www.uwpcnc.org)

If you have ideas for future issues of Your Connection, or to contribute an article for consideration, contact Lindsey Brown.



## BREAKTHROUGH FUNDING APPROVED

Breakthrough funding requests have been approved by the United Way of Pitt County Board of Trustees for Operation Sunshine and the Summer Significance Academy.

Operation Sunshine provides a unique program to at-risk girls ages 6-13 to enhance their personal and educational needs and attributing to their goal of productive citizenship. They requested \$7,500 for their Shining Stars program in an effort to reduce the retention rate of girls in grades K-3. The Shining Stars pro-

gram will be initiated during the summer of 2008 and will serve 24 clients. Operation Sunshine will provide a constructive learning environment for girls 5 to 7 years of age with a focus on teaching them how to develop independence, planning and making positive daily choices, participation and social skills, and time management, just to name a few. Through this program, students are expected to be performing at expectation or exceeding expectation for their grade level.

The Summer Significance

Academy (SSA) is a grant funded, seven week program that provides Pitt County rising 6th grade students the skills necessary to be successful and productive in the transition from elementary to middle school. SSA has been created and implemented thanks to the collaboration of many partners including the Boys and Girls Club, STRIVE, Building Hope Community Life Center, The CHOSEN Project, Intergenerational Community Center, Greenville Police Department and Pitt County Schools. SSA will receive

\$80,000 from UWPC for their 2008/09 fiscal year.

Breakthrough Opportunity Funds are designed to support innovative ideas, emerging needs, and unique opportunities that align with the UWPC Community Action Plan goals and strategies, involve community collaborations, meet financial requirements and comply with an Outcome Measurement plan. For additional information, contact Cheryl Walters, Director of Community Action Plan at (252) 758-1604, ext. 207 or [cwalters@uwpcnc.org](mailto:cwalters@uwpcnc.org).