



United  
Way



# UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL LOUISIANA

FALL 2016



In 2016, the United Way of Central Louisiana invested in 14 community partner agencies in central Louisiana. The funding recommendations of your donated dollars are made by our Community Investment Committee – a group of volunteers who review, analyze and evaluate all program applications that support Education, Income, Health and Basic Needs. Our community partner agencies must under-

go a rigorous application process, which includes a detailed application, site visits, and a presentation to the Community Investment Committee. Additionally, community partners must submit monthly financial reports along with their year-end IRS 990 and audit.

Our community partner agencies must demonstrate that their funded programs fall within one of four priority areas established by United Way of Central Louisiana. For a list of our community partner agencies click here <http://www.uwcl.org/partner-agency-list>

- Education - Children will enter pre-k ready to learn, Youth will graduate high school, Adults are prepared and ready for the workforce
- Income Stability - Clients align spending and saving with income
- Health - Increase healthy behaviors and decrease unhealthy behaviors to promote personal and family safety
- Basic Needs - Personal safety, shelter and food

A constant reminder that 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. Perhaps the most powerful way to leverage your gift of time, influence or money is to tell others that you support United Way and inspire them to give too. If we all give a little, together we have a lot.

*Sharon*

## NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR UNITED WAY!

In September, our United Way's board of directors approved a new partnership with the Rapides Parish School System to start a pilot after-school program at Huddle Elementary.

This is not just any after-school program. It's based on a set of quality standards for after-school education that have been shown to keep kids in school and help them succeed academically. Our ultimate goal is to improve the rate of high-school graduations in Rapides Parish, but that challenge is won or lost long before a student enters high school.

Building on the example of the excellent program at the Pineville Youth Center, the Huddle Elementary program will track the attendance and grades of forty students. Our United Way is funding transportation home after the program for those students who need it; without this, a number of students would be unable to participate.

Your contributions to United Way are the reason we are able to continue to form this and other partnerships and move the needle on issues in our community to create lasting change in central Louisiana. When you donate to our local United Way, you are making a difference where we live, and we appreciate it!



## SEASON'S READINGS



On Saturday, November 12, 2016, United Way, along with the City of Alexandria and Rapides Early Childhood Network (RECN), will be hosting the 3rd Annual Season's Readings event.

Please join us in the Downtown Alexandria Mini Park from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm for fun activities, face painting, balloon animals, storytelling, train rides and books to take home all for free thanks to our sponsor, Luneau & Beck, LLC.

Early childhood education is an important focus area for United Way, and by hosting this event, we are not only putting books into the hands of children, we are spreading awareness of the importance of literacy and reading to children.



Luneau & Beck, LLC  
Attorneys at Law



## HOLIDAY BOOK EVENTS

### SEASON'S READINGS

November 12 from 11:00-1:00 PM  
Downtown Alexandria Mini Park

### HOLIDAY READING WITH SANTA

December 9 and December 15 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM  
Alexandria Mall

### HOLIDAY LIGHT SAFARI

December 16 from 5:00 - 8:00 PM  
Alexandria Zoo

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As we begin to wrap up 2016, please don't forget to wrap up your workplace campaign and submit the results to United Way. We rely on you to make our very important funding decisions each December!

We have so many exciting things happening at United Way, and your support is what is making it happen. By donating to United Way, you are making a huge impact in Cenla. If you haven't sent in your gift yet, it's not too late. Go to [uwcl.org](http://uwcl.org) and click GIVE to make your contribution for the 2016 campaign!



## HOLIDAY WISH LIST

For the last few years, United Way has put together a list of Holiday volunteer and donation opportunities for many non-profit agencies in our area. If you are looking for a way to give back this holiday season, check out our guide at [uwcl.org/holiday-wish-list](http://uwcl.org/holiday-wish-list).



2016  
VOLUNTEER & DONATION OPPORTUNITIES



United Way  
of Central Louisiana

## STAY CONNECTED WITH US





# WILD COOK-OFF

On October 20, 2016, United Way hosted our 16th Annual Wild Cook-Off! We had 14 cooking teams competing with over 35 dishes prepared in our four categories of Wild Game, Cajun, Ribs and BBQ. Thanks to P&G for sponsoring this event and for all of our teams and volunteers who helped make this our most successful cook-off to date!



## 2016 WINNERS



**WILD GAME**  
 1st Place: RoyOMartin  
 2nd Place: Southwest Beverage and LSUA (tie)  
 3rd Place: Jim Villard

**CAJUN**  
 1st Place: LSUA  
 2nd Place: Cleco and P&G (tie)  
 3rd Place: The GEO Group

**RIBS**  
 1st Place: Rapides Tax Assessor's Office  
 2nd Place: YPG/Red River Bank  
 3rd Place: Venture Marketing

**BBQ**  
 1st Place: Southern Heritage Bank  
 2nd Place: RoyOMartin  
 3rd Place: YPG/Red River Bank and Southwest Beverage (tie)

Best Presentation: RoyOMartin  
 People's Choice Award: Southwest Beverage

