



United
Way



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UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL LOUISIANA

WINTER 2017



“What does United Way do?” Some people ask, and others just wonder quietly. The answer is, “A lot!”, but let me give you just a taste of our work:

- Last year we united a few thousand Cenla donors and volunteers to provide nearly a million dollars for local nonprofit agencies and programs in the areas of education, financial stability, basic needs, and health.
- We collaborated with local law enforcement over the past four years to create a badly needed new program, the Family Justice Center of Central Louisiana, to help victims of domestic violence.

The FJC began operations last April and will have a grand opening in its new building on the morning of Saturday, April 22nd.

- We serve as the fiscal agent for two Long-Term Recovery Committees who are helping remaining victims of flooding last March to get back on their feet. Most of these are elderly or disabled families who have not yet been able to repair their homes or regain independence.
- We partnered with Rapides Parish schools to help establish a high-quality afterschool education program for students at Huddle Elementary. The goal of this and other programs is to help more youth graduate high school; this partnership reaches kids early, in those critical formative years.
- We're now serving low-income families with trained volunteers, certified by the IRS, who prepare and submit tax returns at no charge. This saves each family hundreds of dollars and ensures that they receive all the tax deductions and credits that are due to them. This helps the families move toward financial stability, and it puts thousands of dollars back into our local economy.

Here are a few more basics:

- The United Way of Central Louisiana is one of about 1,200 local United Ways around the U.S.A. Each one is independent, serving the local community that chose to begin it. Our governing board is made up of local leaders, answerable only to the Central Louisiana community.
- Whatever money we raise here, stays here. Donations to our United Way stay here in Cenla; we don't send funds off to other places. And we have teams of local volunteers who visit and evaluate all of the local agencies that we fund; we believe in accountability and transparency.
- The United Way Worldwide is our trade association. They exist to serve us at the local level; they don't fund any other agencies. We give them 1% of the funds we raise, and in return we receive training, research, and all of the services any trade association provides. It's a good deal for them and us.
- We work hard to keep our overhead expenses low, generally between 12 and 16 percent.

SOUTHERN HERITAGE BANK



On February 1, 2017, Southern Heritage Bank and Envoy Mortgage presented United Way with a gift of \$7,500 from their Charity Awards Challenge. We are so grateful for the support of Southern Heritage Bank and are excited about the great work we will do with the funds in central Louisiana.

We appreciate all of our community partners and could not do what we do in Cenla without you!

To donate to United Way, please visit uwcl.org and click the GIVE button!



**Southern
Heritage
Bank**

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Welcome to our new board members for 2017! We are excited to have so many great leaders helping all of central Louisiana LIVE UNITED!

Jay Atkinson, CHRISTUS Cabrini Foundation
 Becky Barnes, Rapides Regional Medical Center
 Josh Blackwell, Volunteers of America
 Frank Blumling, Procter & Gamble
 Kim Boyd, Cleco
 David Broussard, England Authority
 Michelle Chevallier, Upbring
 Blake Cooper, Port Authority
 Diane Davidson, RoyOMartin
 John Dean, CLEDA
 Charlamonte Gordon, Eckerd
 Debbie Humphries, Gilchrist Construction
 Patricia Koch, 9th Judicial District Court
 Yasmine Lombard, Procter & Gamble
 Kea Martin, Cleco
 Sandra McQuain, Baker Manufacturing
 Kay Michiels, Gold Weems
 Maria Miranda, NSU
 Tony Murray, Diamond B Construction
 Doug Nelson, AFCO
 Ken Nelson, Salvation Army
 Scott Newcomer, Bancorp South
 Leigh Ann Purvis, RoyOMartin
 Randy Ponthie, Southern Heritage Bank
 Jannease Seastrunk, Red River Bank
 Sue Sullivan, LSU-Alexandria
 Yalanda Taylor, City of Alexandria

ANNUAL MEETING & THANK YOU EVENT

Laissez les bons temps rouler



Join us for a Crawfish Boil
to celebrate another
successful campaign season

United Way 

United Way
of Central Louisiana

OAKWING GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
2345 VANDENBURG DR.
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71303

4:00 PM Crawfish Boil
 5:00-5:30 PM Annual Meeting

THURS **MARCH 30** | RSVP by
 Friday, March 24

\$10/PERSON
CASH BAR

VISIT WWW.UWCL.ORG/ANNUAL-MEETING
 TO PURCHASE TICKETS

For our Annual Meeting this year, we will host a Crawfish Boil on Thursday, March 30 at 4:00 pm. All donors and volunteers are invited to attend. Tickets are available on our website for \$10/person, www.uwcl.org/annual-meeting.

We will announce our campaign awards to our top performing workplace campaigns and look ahead into what we have planned for 2017.

We hope you can make it and celebrate the wonderful things United Way was able to accomplish in our community for 2016!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UWCL?

February - April
 VITA/Free Tax Preparation
 Contact our office to schedule an appointment

Thursday, March 30, 2017
 Campaign Reception/Annual Meeting.
 Get your tickets at www.uwcl.org/annual-meeting

Friday, April 7, 2017
 Day of Action

April 2017 TBD
 Reading on the Red

