

June 21, 2004

United Way Community Services Distributes Capacity Building Funds

United Way Community Services today announced that 12 member agencies received an allocation through its capacity building fund. A total of \$67,000 will be used by the agencies to purchase necessary technology and other equipment vital to their operations.

For instance, Girls Inc will put their allocation toward replacement of the vans that carry girls back and forth to the agency, Hoosier Hills Food Bank and Monroe County United Ministries will use the funds to purchase equipment for moving and storing food, and Stone Belt will add computer workstations for their clients. Several other agencies, including the American Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hoosier Hills Food Bank, Community Kitchen and Salvation Army will be able to upgrade their computers, and Girl Scouts will acquire a VCR and cart for its new facility.

The money to fund these capacity building grants came from the Lilly Endowment as part of a special campaign matching program. The Indiana Association of United Ways manages that program, and awarded UWCS funds based on their performance in recent campaigns.

“We are pleased that our extraordinary campaign effort the past few years continues to yield positive results for the community”, said UWCS Board President Ed Gross. Gross, of Monroe Bank, continued “These one-time funds will be utilized by member agencies to allow them to better serve the needs of their clients.”

The UWCS Allocations Committee, which included Board members and other community volunteers, recommended the funding levels to the Board. Valynda Laird of Bloomington Hospital, who chairs the Allocations Committee, commented that “The committee worked hard to prioritize the applications and fund those that would have the most effect on the agencies and on the community. We hope these funds will have a sustainable impact on the capacity of these agencies to serve those in need.”

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