Envelope found in today’s paper will help you help others through the United Way

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A self-reply envelope is being distributed with today’s newspaper. Please find it and if you are financially able, put a donation in it and send it back to United Way of Monroe County.

United Way is emphasizing the three Es — education, earnings and essentials — in trying to help people cover immediate needs while providing tools to help everyone move toward self-sufficiency.

Start with the Essentials. United Way helps individuals and families have enough food, a stable place to live and health care. It also provides crisis management skills to help people stay on their feet during difficult times.

On Education, many United Way programs, partnerships and initiatives are designed to help children, youth and adults reach their potential. A lot of emphasis in recent years has been on early childhood education and making sure young people school ready to learn. Other programs want to help students graduate school ready to work and earn a living. United Way also is about continuing education and offering ways for people to develop better life skills.

As for Earnings, United Way helps individuals and families gain or maintain stable employment, increase and retain their income and build savings and assets so they aren’t living paycheck to paycheck.

This year’s campaign goal is $1,425,000, to be allocated among 24 member agencies and other nonprofits designated by donors, and to support efforts to serve through the three E’s.

In this context, please consider this fourth E — Every donation will help someone, which could be a friend, family member, neighbor or perhaps even you in the future.

Please find the Envelope (the fifth E!) and give what you can, whether it’s a little or a lot.