

GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

VOLUNTEER.

Summer Fund Provides Over \$90,000 to Programs for Local Youth

United Way's newly expanded Summer Fund program recently provided over \$90,000 in funding to local nonprofits with the goal of increasing employment, summer camp and cultural enrichment opportunities for local young people.

"Families are struggling to find affordable summer programs for younger children, while teens are facing the realities of a recession-riddled job market," said Michelle N. Hantman, President of United Way of Greater New Bedford.



For the past 15 years, United Way has provided "campership" support to local youth. After a successful pilot youth employment initiative last year, the organization decided to expand the funding parameters to include youth employment (including a 2-day job training course) and cultural enrichment components.

"We all say we don't want kids on the streets, but in order to make that a reality, we have to provide them with positive options," added Ms. Hantman.

Summer Fund, which is chaired by Senator Mark

Montigny, allows UWGNB to broaden its funding beyond the traditional health & human service agencies. The program is made possible through generous support from the Island Foundation, Bilezikian Family Foundation, Patrick Carney Foundation, Upstream Foundation and the YES and Rainy Day Funds at the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts, as well as United Way campaign contributions and individual donations.



Nonprofits which received funding to provide employment and enrichment opportunities include 3rd Eye Unlimited; ARC; artMOBILE; ARTWORKS; Boys & Girls Club; City Celebrates!; Community Boating Center; Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts; Hunger Commission of Southeastern Massachusetts; Immigrants Assistance Center; Narragansett Council Boy Scouts of America; PACE YouthBuild; SEMAP; Trips for Kids; Trustees of Reservations; United Front Homes Summer Enrichment Program; WHALE; YMCA Southcoast – Camp Metacomet, Camp Frederick Douglas, Camp Nep-in-NAE and Camp Massasoit; and YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts.

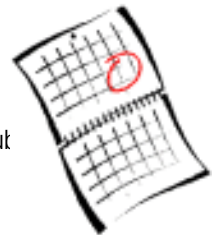
UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 9th

Campaign Coordinator Training Sessions
8:30 – 10 am or 12:30 – 2 pm
YMCA Association Offices
RSVP by Wednesday, August 19th

SEPTEMBER 10th

Campaign Kickoff
5:00 – 7:00 pm
Hawthorne Country Club



OCTOBER 2nd

Day of Caring
Currently accepting agency registrations
Volunteers may sign up beginning Monday, August 31st

OCTOBER 22nd

Annual Meeting
8 am - breakfast
8:30 am - meeting
Hawthorne Country Club

FOR MORE INFO ON THESE EVENTS, GO TO www.unitedwayofgnb.org & click "Events"

BAY SOX STEP UP TO THE PLATE



On Sunday, July 26th the New Bedford Bay Sox hosted United Way Night at Paul Walsh Field. In addition to half of the proceeds from tickets sold in advance benefitting United Way, guests also enjoyed activities at the event such as face painting, games and a Chinese Auction. Carabiner's Indoor Climbing gym also generously donated the use of their portable wall climbing tower, which was a big hit!



A special thanks goes to the Bay Sox, the New Bedford Rotary Club and BankFive for their support, as well as to FUN 107 and Carabiner's Indoor Climbing gym for their in-kind contributions. And thank you to all who purchased tickets and volunteered at the event!



Sign up for United Way's e-newsletter to receive the same timely information via your computer. To sign up, simply send us an e-mail at info@unitedwayofgnb.org.



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MINI-GRANTS FUNDS 28 VOLUNTEER GROUPS

United Way's Community Building Mini-Grants Program recently awarded \$31,181 to 28 local all-volunteer groups that build our local community.

The projects supported represent a broad spectrum of interests, issues and concerns – including neighborhood events, senior, youth and intergenerational activities, public safety, nonviolence, environmental, performing arts, historical, advocacy, disability and community gardens.

"In these challenging times, it's encouraging to see so many people who are working together and committed to making our community a better place to live," said Program Director Claudia Kirk.

The grants provide groups with the opportunity to pursue initiatives that improve the quality of life and address locally identified issues in Greater New Bedford. Serving as the only local resource to support all-volunteer based organizations with budgets not to exceed \$25,000, the program offers grant making, skill-building workshops, and networking opportunities.

The following organizations received Mini-Grants this year for projects aimed at making life better in our community:



21 FrienDS

Acushnet Classic Ensemble (ACE)

Bullard Street Neighborhood Association

Busy Hands & Loving Hearts

Community Breakfast Program

Cove Street Neighborhood Association

DeMello School PTO

Fairhaven Association for Music in Education

Fairhaven Sustainability/Community Garden Comm.

First Fridays New Bedford

Friends of Old Rochester Regional Drama

Friends of the Wareham Community Pathway

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Jireh Swift Elementary PTO

Kids That Grow

MA Children's Relief

Martha Briggs Educational Club, Inc.

Miss Acushnet Sesquicentennial Committee

MOMS Club of Fairhaven

Monte's Park Basketball League

Onset Community Crime Watch

Safe Zones

Serenity Gardens

Southcoast Community Gardens Coalition

Team Builders, Inc.

The Baby Project

The Spiritual Warrior Society

Voices in Time

For more information about the Community Building Mini-Grants Program, call Claudia Kirk at 508-994-9625, ext. 13. or www.unitedwayofgnb.org.

MEET ROSA: United Way's New VISTA Volunteer

We are pleased to welcome our new VISTA Volunteer, **Rosa V. DaCosta**, to the United Way team.

A New Bedford native, Rosa has a Masters in Public Health from Drexel University in Philadelphia with a focus on food access and nutrition. She also worked with the Philadelphia GROW Project and assisted on research with the Children's Health Watch –The Real Cost of a Health Diet Project.

Rosa will spend a year as United Way of Greater New Bedford's Community Services Coordinator, working as the liaison for Volunteer Solutions and broadening volunteer outreach efforts in schools and the general community. In addition, Rosa will coordinate the Days of Caring and work closely to enhance public awareness about Mass 2-1-1.



KING FOR LOANED EXECUTIVES

Each year, local businesses and organizations participate in a special community-wide leadership project — UWGNB's **Loaned Executive Program**. Through this unique partnership, businesses loan employees who act as Account Managers working with United Way staff to implement the annual campaign.

The Loaned Executive Program provides benefits for everyone involved:

The Employer

- Employees gain valuable new business contacts and are able to aggressively promote your company.
- Employees gain a greater understanding and appreciation for the difference they make for themselves and for their company through volunteering.

The Employee

- Exposure to critical issues facing our community and becoming part of the solution to addressing these concerns
- Contact with community leaders

The Community

- Stronger, safer and healthier thanks to United Way's unique ability to effectively address our community's most pressing needs

If your or your company is interested in participating, contact Sarah Gonet at 508-994-9625, ext. 18 or via e-mail at sgonet@unitedwayofgnb.org.