

Valley United Way

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Proudly Serving the Valley Community since 1995



Valley United Way April 2008

Mission Statement

The Corporate Volunteer Council strives to enhance the quality of life in the Valley by promoting and fostering corporate volunteerism through the sharing of ideas and information on corporate volunteer management and actions that can be driven to address issues of community concern.

All efforts performed by the CVC will be conducted to collectively embrace change and leverage diversity.

06.21.08
SUMMER SOLSTICE
LONGEST DAY OF THE YEAR
SHINE A LIGHT.
INSPIRE ACTION.
TAKE A STAND.
CREATE IMPACT.
UNITED WAY
NATIONAL
DAY OF ACTION
LIVE UNITED

LIVE UNITED: CVC to Support "Day of Action"

The Valley United Way and its Corporate Volunteer Council will join other United Way chapters across the country in a "Day of Action" to be held Saturday June 21, 2008. The event is part of United Way's new ad campaign "LIVE UNITED" which will be rolled out later this month. The Day of Action is a call to action for individuals, corporations and civic groups to give, advocate and volunteer on issues relating to education, income and health. United Way is encouraging volunteers to come together on a single day – the longest day of the year – to perform large scale projects that serve their community. In doing so, they hope to

send a clear message about United Way's impact in the community and to show the world what it means to LIVE UNITED.

The Valley's CVC will reschedule its "Week of Caring" from September to June to coincide with United Way's "Day of Action". Previously, the CVC's two largest volunteer efforts – Back-to-School Clothes for Kids and Week of Caring fell within a few weeks of each other. The new schedule spreads these events farther apart and allows the CVC to better focus energies on each effort. Plans for the new Week of Caring/Day of Action are already being discussed and the CVC is currently in the process of soliciting project requests from Valley agencies. "We're still unsure whether we will do one or more projects this year," said Pat Tarasovic, Director VUW Volunteer Action Center. "What we will be looking for are ways that we can come together as a community and have greater impact in the Valley." Stay tuned for more on "Day of Action" plans. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to get involved in CVC activities and LIVE UNITED.



Don't you just *love* a man who cooks?

How about 50 of them? More than 50 Valley men will show off their culinary skills at the 1st annual "Men Who Cook" fundraiser this Saturday, April 5th, to benefit TEAM Inc. The event will be held

from 6 - 10 p.m. at Warsaw Park, 119 Pulaski Highway in Ansonia, and is sponsored by a number of CVC member companies, including Naugatuck Valley Savings and Loan, Wal*Mart, United Illuminating Company, Barnum Financial Group, Iroquois Gas Transmission and F. W. Serra. CVC Member David M. Grant serves as an event Co-Chair, and VUW President Jack Walsh, Fred Ortoli of Fred Ortoli Photography, and Pat Tarasovic's husband and son, Nick Sr. and Nick Jr. will all don aprons and serve up their own culinary specialties for all to enjoy.

In addition to great food and drinks, the evening includes silent and live auctions, a Final Four TV lounge for sports enthusiasts and a DJ and dancing. Tickets are \$50 per person and must be purchased in advance by contacting Sheila Peterson, TEAM Inc. at 736-5420 x1202, or emailing her at speterson@teaminc.org.



*VUW's Jack Walsh, who will serve as a chef, and Dotty Cacchillo of Wal*Mart display a gift basket that Wal*Mart donated for the event's silent auction.*

UPCOMING EVENTS



April 5: Men Who Cook Event to Benefit TEAM Inc.

Warsaw Park, 119 Pulaski Highway, Ansonia. Men in the Valley volunteer their culinary skills to benefit TEAM Inc. programs. Tickets are \$50 per person and include food, wine, beer and soft drinks. Silent & live auction, Final Four TV lounge, plus DJ & dancing. For tickets call Sheila Peterson, TEAM Inc 736-5420 x1202.

April 29: VUW 40th Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner

5:15 p.m. at John J. Sullivan's in Ansonia. Sponsored by Barnum Financial Group. Tickets are \$45 per person. To make a reservation, visit www.valleyunitedway.org.

April Corporate Food Pantry Drives

The CVC has established a year-round collection schedule to ensure a steady supply of food to local food banks. Each month, local businesses conduct food drives on their premises to benefit **Area Congregations Together** who distribute the food to the needy through their food bank. ACT also runs Spooner House, a homeless shelter in Derby.

Companies holding drives this month:

- HSBC Bank USA
- CAPS Business Recovery Services
- Hilton Garden Inn
- NEC Infrontia, Inc. & NEC Unified Solutions

Clothing Drives in April

CVC companies conduct monthly clothing drives throughout the year. Clothes are donated to **My Sister's Place** thrift shop which sells the clothing to benefit The Umbrella Domestic Violence Program and the **Helping Hands** thrift shop run by Father McKenna St. Vincent De Paul Society. Conducting drives this month:

- NEC Infrontia & NEC Unified Solutions
- Microsol, Inc.
- Iroquois Gas Transmission
- The McIntyre Group
- Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Prudential Financial

Next Corporate Volunteer Council Meeting

The next CVC committee meeting will be held **Thursday, April 17, 2008 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**, hosted by GE International at Two Corporate Drive, Shelton. All CVC representatives are invited to attend.

- A-Plus Staffing
- Arson Productions
- Altair Global Relocation
- Barnum Financial Group
- Basement Systems
- Better Packages
- Bright Horizons
- CAPS Business Recovery
- Cara Therapeutics
- CDW-G
- Citi Bank
- Comcast
- Commerce Bank
- Computershare
- David M. Grant Caterers
- DeDonato Building
- Emhart Technologies
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- F.W. Serra, Inc.
- Fletcher Thompson
- Fred Ortolí Photography
- GE International
- Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce
- HSBC Bank, USA
- Hamworthy Peabody
- Hasler, Inc.
- Health Net
- Holiday Inn Express
- Homewood Suites
- Iroquois Gas
- Kerite Company
- Latex International
- Life Touch Studios
- Market Data Retrieval
- Marks of Design
- Microsol, Inc.
- NEC
- Naugatuck Savings Bank
- Ned Miller Associates
- Newtown Savings Bank
- People's United Bank
- PerkinElmer
- Pitney Bowes
- Professional Travel
- Prudential Financial, Inc.
- SSC, Inc.
- Sikorsky Aircraft
- The Greenwich Workshop
- The Hartford
- The McIntyre Group
- United Illuminating
- Wachovia
- WalMart
- Warner Insurance & Financial
- Webster Bank



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COMPANY OF INTEREST:

*A conversation with Dorcas Blue,
Community Development Specialist*



Tell us about your company.

UI, The United Illuminating Company, was formed in 1899 when the Bridgeport Electric Company merged with the New Haven Electric Company. UI is a regional distribution utility providing electricity and energy-related services to more than 320,000 customers in the Valley, Greater New Haven and Greater Bridgeport areas.

UI employs approximately 400 people in Shelton.

How did UI become involved with the CVC and why is membership important to your company?

UI actually hosted the very first CVC meeting in March of 1995, so we've been involved from the beginning. UI employees have volunteered in a variety of roles with the Valley United Way for over 20 years. It is important to our company because UI employees are eager to participate in efforts to support the communities where we live and work. While the company provides grants and funding support to local organizations, efforts via the CVC are employee-driven.

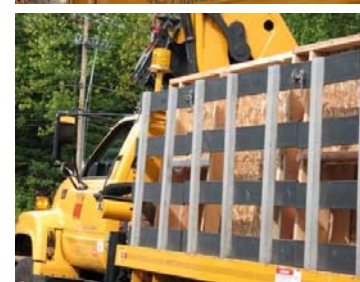
Tell us how UI supports CVC activities and the impact you have had.

UI participated in Harvest House and in the Cell Phone Donation program. Cell phones donations had been a challenge for us for many years, until an IT employee saw an article in a newspaper about a local company that specializes in wiping phones clean in preparation for use by domestic violence agencies. The employee called me to discuss this. I called the company to obtain details and communicated these back to the IT employee. She prepared the phones, the company "cleaned" them, and the phones were then donated to the Birmingham Group's Umbrella Domestic Violence program.

As a CVC representative, how do you communicate CVC efforts to your employees and drive volunteerism?

Our company newsletter, *Newsline*, highlights the company's community support and the volunteer efforts of employees. In addition, *Newsline* is used to recruit volunteers and announce community needs.

In addition to representing The United Illuminating Company on the CVC, Dorcas Blue also serves on the Board of Directors for the Valley United Way.



UI employees deliver the walls to build Harvest House

CVC COLLECTION COMMITTEES:

Food Pantry – Corporate food drives to benefit area food banks

Team Leads:
Bonnie Sinclair 926-5407
Bsinclair@necinfrontia.com

Jasmine McIntyre 944-1762
Jasmine.mcintyre@bdk.com

Notions Collection – Toiletries for the men living at the Valley YMCA

Team Lead:
Michelle Fabozzi 944-3385
michelle.fabozzi@corporate.ge.com

Clothing Collection – Used clothes for the Umbrella Program & St. Vincent DePaul Helping Hands of the Valley

Team Leads:
Sue Millican 925-7255
Sue_Millican@iroquois.com

Mandi Marcino 203-944-0777 ext. 241
mam@themcintyregroup.com

Cell Phone Collection – Used phones for victims of domestic violence

Team Lead:
Walter Binck 922-1199 ext. 250
Wbinck@hamworthy-peabody.com

Caring Circle – Knitted blankets and apparel for clients at Umbrella

Team Leads:
Antonieta Hallet 402-1405
Antonieta.hallet@prudential.com

Michelle Fabozzi 944-3385
michelle.fabozzi@corporate.ge.com

Computer Collection – Refurbished equipment donated to charities

Team Lead:
Alan Tolmich 944-7300 ext. 149
Alan.tolmich@computershare.com

Valley United Way

Jack Walsh, President & Chief Operating Officer
Jack.walsh@valleyunitedway.org
Patricia C. Tarasovic, Director, Volunteer Center
Patricia.Tarasovic@valleyunitedway.org

CVC 2008 Co-Chairs

Dotty Cacchillo, Wal*Mart, Derby
magnamo@sbcglobal.net
Renee Bergen, Cara Therapeutics
rbergen@caratherapeutics.com

Forward comments regarding the CVC newsletter to:

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