

Greater Mankato Area United Way

February 15, 2008

Thank You Event and Recognition

On February 7, Greater Mankato Area United Way did our best to thank all the volunteers that do so much to help make our United Way a success.

From **Board Members**, to **Campaign Volunteers**, to **Community Impact Teams**, to our **Finance Committee**, to **Books for Kids volunteers**, our community is so lucky to have so many great people willing to share their time & talent to make services possible for thousands of people who need them.

In addition to warming up to some yummy hot soup on an extra-frigid day, United Way recognized several firms and individuals for their extraordinary gifts as

Businesses of the Year, **Heart Club Philanthropist**, and **Volunteer of the Year**.

Read their stories, pictured here!

Volunteer of the Year: Ann Stewart

Ann has been a lifelong supporter and volunteer for the Greater Mankato Area United Way. Her passion and



commitment to share United Way's message go above and beyond the call of duty, starting as a company volunteer for NSP, to donating 20 hours a week during campaign from the late 1990s to 2003, to leading the Community Division for the

Business of the Year: Valley Bank

For their outstanding employee campaign, Valley Bank won the Business of the Year award for companies with 1-49 employees. Valley Bank has been a huge supporter of our United Way. Employees throughout the bank serve various roles from a board member, community impact volunteers, corporate caller, loaned executives, to medium firm campaigners. As the first corporate and employee campaign to finish, they set our 2008 campaign off to a fast start. Their efforts to increase the employee campaign sure paid off with a 24% increase in giving, 97% employee participation, and \$226 employee per capita giving amount.

Thanks, Valley Bank!



Business of the Year: CenterPoint Energy

For firms with 50-149 employees, CenterPoint Energy stood out as the Business of the Year.

Each year, CenterPoint forms a committee of co-workers is to handle the United Way campaign.

Committee members attend agency tours to see first-hand the impact of the United Way. The committee also makes sure to personally share United Way's message and show the video with each person. In addition, CenterPoint employees help out on the campaign by sharing their ideas with other companies ensuring they also succeed. Through this personal and involved approach, CenterPoint saw a 28.1% increase in employee giving! Thanks for helping to ensure a successful campaign, CenterPoint!



2008 Campaign. In every activity that Ann assists with she puts her entire self into the project.

Ann always says that the key to staying alert is to remain busy - luckily, for the greater Mankato area, Ann has not only chosen the United Way but the whole community as the recipient of her energy and passion.

Well Said!

You may have noticed signs posted throughout the greater Mankato area last week thanking volunteers for all they do. Volunteers make up 99% of Greater Mankato Area United Way's staff. Together, we are able to accomplish so much to help make the greater Mankato area a better place to live and work.

You are the reason Greater Mankato Area United Way is able to touch so many lives.

THANK YOU.

Your Gift in Action

Do you want to know what good your United Way dollars are doing? Throughout 2008, we will be sharing real stories with you of *Your Gift in Action* in the community with regular eNewsletters. Watch for 'em!



Business of the Year: HickoryTech

For companies with 150+ employees, HickoryTech won the Business of the Year Award.

HickoryTech has provided support and volunteers across the United Way organization to help further our mission. HickoryTech

representatives serve on the board, community impact teams, campaign cabinet, as well as having an internal campaign committee who work to put together a week of fun United Way activities. All these efforts led to HickoryTech attaining the Achievement Award for their employee campaign. They also increased their Heart Club numbers from 14 members to 22 members!

Thank You HickoryTech for your continuous support!



Heart Club Philanthropist: Bob Coughlan

The heart of our campaign is our Heart Club members, who are individuals who commit to a gift of \$500 or more (we currently have over 600 Heart Club members.)



The Heart Club Philanthropist Award goes to an individual who stands out for their impact on leadership, both for their generous financial giving as well as their ability to motivate others within their company and community to become a leadership giver. This year's Heart Club Philanthropist Award is awarded to Bob Coughlan. Bob has a personal commitment to the Heart Club and is a giver at the Platinum Circle level. But just as important, Bob has helped inspire a culture of giving within his company - this year Coughlan Companies more than *doubled* their Heart Club membership and had 66 #1 Club members! In part to Bob's vision and passion, Coughlan Companies donates over \$400,000 in books each year to make sure every child develops a love for reading.

Greater Mankato Area United Way
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