

GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

VOLUNTEER.

### Crisis Nursery

#### Lutheran Social Service

The Crisis Nursery is there to support local families when there are medical appointments or medical emergencies, housing or childcare problems, or when parents are stressed out and need a break.

The Crisis Nursery recently received a call from a single mom with a young child. She works full-time, but when her childcare provider had a medical emergency with her own family, this Mom had no family close by and no other support to care for her child while she worked. She called the Crisis Nursery, who provided childcare for the week so that she wouldn't lose her job.

The Crisis Nursery often receives calls from local clinics and the hospital with families in crisis who need help with childcare. A doctor recently called asking for support for a family where Mom was in the hospital and the father needed to stay with her.

The Crisis Nursery was able to place the children in a home that was convenient for them to be able to go and visit Mom.

Recently the Crisis Nursery was also able to help a stressed Mom get a weekend of rest. She was able to re-group and get herself mentally healthy again for her children.

Your United Way donation makes it possible to have this kind of support system in place, to reach out a hand to families when they are in need.



The greater Mankato area is advancing the common good and creating opportunities for a better life for all.

### Brother/Sister Program - YMCA



Your dollars help make the YMCA's Brother/Sister Program an invaluable experience in the lives of both the youth and the adult volunteer mentors they are matched with, but also with the families and community they are a part of. Here, participants describe what the mentorship program experience means to them.

**Marie (Mentor):** "I joined the Brother/Sister program in 2004 because I wanted to make a difference in a child's life. I feel it's extremely important for children to have at least one positive adult in their lives that they can look up to and count on to be there, not mom or dad, but someone who spends time with them and is there for them just because they want to be. I have seen Kali grow and mature over the past three years and I am proud of the young lady she is becoming. She is extremely creative, free spirited, hilarious, fun, and has a huge heart! She has taught me what it's like to 'be a kid again'...she even helped me get through graduate school while keeping my sanity! Most importantly, she has helped me to see the world through her eyes... which is bigger, brighter and so full of life! I know that we have formed a friendship that will last forever. I can only hope that someday when I have children that Kali can be a part of their lives too."

**Kali (Youth) on the Brother/Sister Program:** "I always have something to do so I don't just sit around at home. Marie always wants to know what is going on, she comes to my plays and my games and I think she really loves me like my mom. And, my mom likes her a lot too and she doesn't trust just anyone to take care of me."

**Trish (Kali's mom) on what the Brother/Sister program has done for Kali:** "There doesn't need to be an emergency, trauma or even a problem for each child to deserve someone special who wants to spend time with them because of who they are. I was hoping for Kali to have a confidante and see her own value in her mentor's eyes. I know Kali is better equipped to trust herself to handle (certain) situations, and knows that there are people here to walk her through it. You can't measure that with statistics, quarterly reports or funding...you can, however count your blessings and measure your gratitude in your

## Volunteer & Intern Opportunities

### at Harry Meyering Center

Harry Meyering Center currently has positions and activities available for volunteers or as internships. The areas they are looking to fill are: Community Health, Community Supports for People with Disabilities, Human Resources, Leisure/Recreation, Nutrition & Dietary Assessment, Social Work, Social/Psychological Services, and Staff Development.

To find out more, go to [www.harrymeyeringcenter.org](http://www.harrymeyeringcenter.org), click on *About Us*, then either *Volunteer* or *Intern*.



## New Website Rollout

Watch for our all-new Website coming July 1<sup>st</sup>!



child's eyes."

The Brother/Sister Program is currently in need of more male adult mentors, as there are 35 boys on the waiting list who will wait an average of two years to be matched up. If you're interested in learning more about the YMCA's Brother/Sister Program, you can contact them at 345-9825 [ybs@mankatoymca.com](mailto:ybs@mankatoymca.com).

## Funding Decisions for 2009 Programs

United Way volunteers have been busy deliberating which programs will receive funding in 2009. During the month of April, 53 volunteers spent over 500 hours reviewing agency applications and making tough funding decisions based on the following criteria:

A graphic with the text '2009 Funding' in a bold, red, 3D-style font with a blue shadow, set against a white background.

- 1) Demonstrated need,
- 2) Measurable impact shown in outcomes,
- 3) Maximizing community resources, and
- 4) Financial accountability

When final funding recommendations are approved by the United Way Board, United Way volunteers and donors will know exactly how much money they need to raise this fall in order to fund the community's needs in 2009. A heart-felt THANK YOU to all the people who volunteer their time and resources to make these important and exhaustive decisions!

Greater Mankato Area United Way  
101 N. 2nd St #100  
Mankato, MN 56001  
[www.mankatounitedway.org](http://www.mankatounitedway.org)

