

Every donated dollar counts

Written by Deb Egenberger
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United Way luncheon set for Oct. 17.

Whether you toss a couple bucks into a collection tub at a free-will donation soup supper or agree to have money withdrawn from your pay check on a weekly basis, each dollar donated to the Gothenburg chapter of United Way makes a difference.

“We really appreciate every person who donates,” said Karla Blase, local United Way president. “Each one is a big part of why Gothenburg’s United Way is a success.”

The annual campaign kicks off this weekend with a luncheon at the Gothenburg Senior Center on Sunday, officially opening the drive to raise this year’s goal of \$24,100.

“The last couple of years have been very good,” Blase said, noting that United Way achieved last year’s goal of \$24,000. “We still have to work really hard but people here are so generous.”

Nearly all of the money raised in Gothenburg is distributed between nine agencies.

Blase said administrative expenses, including national dues, total less than \$1,000.

The rest goes directly to the agencies that touch the lives of residents young and old ranging from the Senior Center to Building Blocks Child Care Center and Preschool, she said.

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UNITED WAY AGENCIES

- Building Blocks Child Care Center and Preschool
- Community Action Partnership of Mid-Missouri which is a county home-based Head Start program that serves age- and income-eligible preschool children and their families
- Dawson/Gasper County Chapter of the American Red Cross
- Dawson/Gasper County OCSA which provides court-appointed volunteers who advocate for children who are abused or neglected
- Family Advocacy Network, a child-friendly center that helps provide immediate response to
- child abuse and sexual assault victims
- Gothenburg/Brady Ministerial Association which provides assistance to area residents in need of housing, food and medical care
- Gothenburg GED Program that helps students earn the equivalent of a high school diploma
- Gothenburg Senior Citizens Center Inc., a non-profit organization that provides services to seniors
- Parents-Child Center which provides assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse

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