

## April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

One of United Way of Forsyth County's top priorities is to reduce child abuse and domestic violence in our community. To do so, we have teamed up with three of our 34 partner agencies including Exchange SCAN, Family Services, and the Legal Aid Society.

Scott Craver, deputy director of Exchange SCAN, provided an overview of this critical issue: "Nationally, almost 3 million children are harmed or endangered by maltreatment each year and children with disabilities are nearly four times as likely to be abused or neglected. The potential long-term effects of child maltreatment can include relationship dysfunction, depression, sexual victimization, post-traumatic stress disorder, and partner violence. Additionally, children suffering from maltreatment are more likely to have poor academic performance and higher rates of substance abuse, and are suicide.

Locally, the number of reports of maltreatment has risen dramatically (nearly 60%) over the last ten years. The rise in reports of child abuse and neglect mirrors statewide rates. A particularly disturbing trend is the fact that nearly half of the children substantiated for maltreatment or in need of services were between the ages of 0-6 – the most vulnerable population. A 2008 report (*Child Health Report Card*) produced by Action for Children and North Carolina Institute of Medicine gave the state of North Carolina an 'F' regarding 'confirmed child deaths (33) due to abuse.'

While there are many reasons for child maltreatment, research indicates that poverty is perhaps the greatest indicator of potential abuse or neglect, "as parents who earn less than \$15,000 per year are 44 times more likely to maltreat their children compared to parents earning more than \$30,000" (American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy). More than 51,000 people (14.9% of the population) in Forsyth County live in poverty (2008 census estimate). The potential for maltreatment has never been greater. It is the collective responsibility of the community to protect our children.

During April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, we ask that everybody do their part to help raise awareness about the issue of child maltreatment."

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### Sable Got Help To Be a Better Parent

Sable is the mother of two, aged one and six year old. Without her high school diploma, she found it very difficult to provide for them with a minimum wage job. Living hand-to-mouth was stressful, and some days Sable found their youthful exuberance simply overwhelming.

Sable shared her concerns with a friend who referred her to Exchange SCAN. At SCAN, well-trained and compassionate counselors helped her learn how to be a better mother and avoid taking out her frustrations on her children.

Life since SCAN has improved a great deal for Sable and her children. She's working on her GED. She hopes to become a medical data technician and improve her family's standard of living.

Sable got the help she needed to be a better parent thanks to donations to United Way. She says "thank you" for giving her and her children a brighter future.

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## \$137,500 Grant Will Strengthen Education Effort

A \$137,500 grant from United Way Worldwide (UWW) will strengthen United Way of Forsyth County's efforts in education. Working collaboratively with a wide range of community partners, United Way of Forsyth County is committed to improving the high school graduation rate from the current rate of 73 percent to 90 percent by 2018.

UWW's Increasing Teacher Effectiveness (ITE) Challenge Grant is designed to help states and local communities develop communication and advocacy strategies to empower and support effective teachers and create tools that United Ways across the system will be able to use. Communities in North Carolina, Texas, and Florida have received the grant. United Way of Forsyth County joins its counterparts in Iredell, Lee, and Rowan Counties as recipients of the award in North Carolina.



## Volunteer of the Month: Kim Stogner, Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

In addition to her work as an attorney at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC, Kim Stogner is dedicated to the Winston-Salem Community. Among the many boards of directors that Kim currently and previously served, United Way of Forsyth County is privileged to benefit from Kim's vision and passion as she serves as on the Board of Directors and is a Founding Member of United Way of Forsyth County's Foundation Board of Directors.

Over the last seven years, Kim has provided critical leadership on United Way's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Kim served as Chair of the Community Planning & Investment Division during the transition from program category funding to issue-focused funding. In addition, Kim led the effort to introduce and implement the Breakthrough Initiative work of the organization. She galvanized the volunteers and helped clearly communicate the direction the United Way needed to take to create greater success for our community. As a direct result of her vision and leadership, United Way's Breakthrough Initiative in education — Graduating Our Future — is producing phenomenal results that are drawing national attention. For example, the number of 9th graders failing the 9th grade at Parkland Magnet High School where the Initiative is being piloted has been reduced by 40 percent over only two years. Kim continues her involvement with United Way's investment process through the Breakthrough Initiative evaluation committee.

## Project Blueprint: Preparing Leaders for 20 Years

United Way's Project Blueprint is a leadership development program that aims to increase the number of professionals of color providing leadership in local health, government and human services organizations. This marks the 20th year that our United Way has provided this valuable service. The 2010 Project Blueprint class began on January 26 and ended on March 23. Classes were on Mondays from 12:00 noon to 2 p.m. Graduation will be on April 20. Graduates include Bridgett Brown, Purolator Faucet, Inc.; Monica Brown, Downtown Health Plaza; Trisha Coleman, Novant Health; Bryant Foriest, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney; Alyson Francisco, Community Volunteer; Kim Hutchinson, WFU Baptist Medical Center; Chaka Jordan, WFU Baptist Medical Center; Cindy Keating, Inmar, Inc.; Montez Lane, WFU School of Medicine; Deanna Leonard, Williams Roberts Young; Kenneth Love, Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc.; Greta Gray Webel, Community Volunteer; Temeca Wilson, WFU Baptist Medical Center; Delvon Worthy, Novant Health.

## Corporate Spotlight



Founded in 1885 and headquartered in Milwaukee, Johnson Controls (NYSE: JCI) has 133,000 employees in more than 1,300 locations serving customers in more than 130 companies. The Battery Division in Kernersville, NC, employs 269 partners and runs three shifts.

Johnson Controls has become a leader in community outreach under the leadership of Plant Manager Dick Pryor and his team. Employees tutor students at Petrie Elementary School and have on-going food drives for the Second Harvest Food Bank in addition to strongly supporting the United Way campaign. Their entry in last year's United We Can event provided over 12,000 pounds of food and household goods for the Food Bank (*see photo at bottom left*).



The 2009 United Way Campaign at Johnson Controls was exemplary. Employee Campaign Manager D.D. Adams led a 10 member planning committee comprised of employees from throughout the plant. A slide show of United Way events streamed continuously in the lunch room and "Burma Shave" type signs were posted beside the entrance driveway throughout the campaign.

Per capita giving increased by 15 percent with an average gift of \$249. Participation grew by 41 percent to 73 percent, and Leadership Circle giving increased by \$13,396 (90 percent). Johnson Controls also provides a generous 1:1 corporate match for employee gifts to United Way.