

Thank you to the following New Britain and Berlin area organizations and their employees for helping to raise \$28,156,916 through workplace campaigns and corporate gifts in the 2008 United Way Community Campaign.

In addition to the dozens of workplaces that conducted campaigns in the New Britain and Berlin region, 88 individual donors, including four leadership contributors, helped the 2008 United Way Community Campaign achieve success. Your generosity is helping to improve lives and change conditions in our community.

United Way of New Britain and Berlin
Impact

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2008 Community Report

2008 HIGHLIGHTS



Barbara Kirejczyk, chair of the New Britain Food Security Collaborative steering committee, celebrates her 2007 Volunteer of the Year Award with her family at United Way of New Britain and Berlin's 68th annual meeting on June 16, 2008.



At the same meeting, Comcast received the 2007 United Way Community Campaign Champion Award for the New Britain and Berlin region. Shown left to right: Kristen Roberts and Pam Mackenzie of Comcast; Susan B. Dunn, president and CEO of United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut; Michael Gorzoch, then chair of the board of United Way of New Britain and Berlin; and Brad Palazzo of Comcast.



Ginny Daly and Eva Cichy (standing) of The Stanley Works help to clean and reorganize the Literacy Volunteers of Central Connecticut lending library at the New Britain Public Library. They were among more than 5,000 volunteers who participated in United Way Day of Caring in fall 2008.

Dear Friends of United Way,



What an exciting year it has been for United Way of New Britain and Berlin! We have begun our first year as a regional advisory board of United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut and have continued to improve lives and change community conditions in New Britain and Berlin during very tough economic times.

While our governance structure has changed, our dedication to the community has not. In these pages, you will see some of the amazing work accomplished by a dedicated group of local volunteers, nonprofit partners and other community stakeholders. You will learn how United Way's partnership with the Community Chest of New Britain and Berlin has increased students' time "on task" and decreased discipline referrals at three New Britain middle schools through improved classroom management. You will also read about a collaboration among United Way, local service providers, and municipal and business leaders that led to the opening of the New Britain Food and Resource Center in January. And you'll see highlights from some of the United Way events and celebrations that have brought us together as a community.

None of this could have been done without the tremendous spirit of community here in New Britain and Berlin. Even in these challenging economic times, local individuals, workplaces and organizations have demonstrated a willingness to work together to improve lives and change community conditions, by helping to raise \$28,156,916 in the 2008 United Way Community Campaign! This year, more than \$900,000 in *Community Investment* funds have been invested in local efforts to improve lives and change community conditions. We applaud and thank everyone who contributed.

In addition, we also want to thank local and regional organizations with whom we partner on initiatives to improve community conditions: American Savings Foundation; Bank of America; Comcast; the Community Chest of New Britain and Berlin, Inc.; the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain; the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund; and the Wal-Mart Foundation.

I look forward to another year as chair of the regional advisory board and to fostering further partnerships built on service excellence and a passion for advancing the common good. On behalf of United Way of New Britain and Berlin, thank you and best wishes for 2009.

Lindsley Wellman

Lindsley Wellman
Chair, Regional Advisory Board

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**United Way of
New Britain and Berlin**



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New Britain and Berlin**

New Britain Food and Resource Center Offers a New Solution to Hunger



Left: Dozens of local nonprofit, government and business leaders gathered on January 5 at the former New Britain Parks and Recreation Department pool house on Osgood Avenue for the opening of the New Britain Food and Resource Center—the culmination of a three-year effort by many volunteers. Left to right: Major Stanley Newton of The Salvation Army, New Britain; Enrique Juncadella, director of community relations at the Hospital of Central Connecticut and a United Way of New Britain and Berlin volunteer; Barbara Kirejczyk, chair of the steering committee for the New Britain Food Security Collaborative, which led efforts to establish the center; and Mayor Timothy T. Stewart of New Britain.

Imagine having to choose between spending the last of your paycheck on groceries or on medicine. How would you feel knowing that your children are hungry and can't concentrate at school?

Not having enough to eat is a daily part of life for one in ten New Britain residents—or 7,000 people, including 3,000 children. What's more, many of these adults and families are working, but still struggling to make ends meet. Food is often an expense that gets sacrificed in order to pay for rent or utilities.

United Way and other community partners are tackling hunger by helping families become more financially stable and gain greater access to nutritious food. One of the innovative models United Way is supporting is the New Britain Food and Resource Center at 460 Osgood Avenue.

The Food and Resource Center, which opened on January 5, is the culmination of three years of work by the New Britain Food Security Collaborative, a group of more than 30 local organizations and workplaces dedicated to addressing hunger and its related social and health needs. United Way volunteers provided leadership for the collaborative from the very beginning, convening municipal and business leaders and service providers to examine food security and financial stability issues hand in hand.

The Food and Resource Center allows consumers to select the food that's appropriate for their families instead of receiving prepackaged bags of groceries. This approach demonstrates respect for the consumers and also eliminates waste. Individuals can also access onsite services including job search assistance with trained staff from the State Department of Labor, SNAP (formerly food stamp) screening, and case management and referrals. In addition, the center will soon offer nutrition services, onsite financial literacy classes, and budget coaching.

Well Managed Classroom Increases Time Spent Learning in New Britain Middle Schools

Since 2005, an innovative program for improving student behavior, called *Well Managed Classroom (WMC)*, has led to a 40% drop in discipline referrals at Louis P. Slade Middle School. And it's brought similar results to two other New Britain middle schools, with continued support from United Way.

In February 2009, an average of 93% of students in the three New Britain middle schools were found to be "on task," or paying attention, as opposed to 83% the prior month. WMC cuts down on behavior problems in class, boosting the amount of "teachable time." And when teachers have more time to teach, children have more time to learn.

WMC, a program of Boys Town in Omaha, Nebraska, was first implemented in 2001 in Hartford in a unique public/private partnership led by United Way. New Britain and Berlin board members and community leaders shared WMC results with local educators, and in 2005 WMC was launched at Louis P. Slade Middle School. Roosevelt and Pulaski Middle Schools began using the model in 2007.

WMC effectively teaches students how to manage their own behavior by breaking down 16 crucial skills into small steps that they can understand and master, one at a time. For example, students learn how to accept "no" for an answer, how to disagree appropriately, and how to give and accept criticism and compliments. Previously learned skills are maintained, and a new skill is introduced across the school each week.

United Way supports WMC and other local programs and initiatives that build a brighter future for children by equipping them with the skills needed to succeed. United Way of New Britain and Berlin would also like to acknowledge the support of the Community Chest of New Britain and Berlin, Inc., in providing resources for WMC this year.

Total Community Investment dollars for fiscal year 2008–2009: \$946,282

The graphic below reflects how United Way *Community Investment* dollars from the 2007 United Way Community Campaign were disbursed in the fiscal year starting July 1, 2008. Programs at the agencies listed below support the following goals:

Ensuring Children Are Successful — Helps children enter kindergarten ready to learn, meet age-appropriate goals for success by the fourth grade, and develop skills needed to become financially stable adults.

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| Big Brothers Big Sisters/Nutmeg | Center of New Britain, Inc. |
| Boy Scouts of America, | Wheeler Clinic, Inc./Prevent Child Abuse Connecticut |
| Connecticut Rivers Council | |
| Boys & Girls Club of New Britain, Inc. | YMCA of Greater Hartford |
| Girl Scouts of Connecticut | YMCA of New Britain – Berlin |
| Opportunities Industrialization | YWCA of New Britain, Inc. |

Strengthening Families — Helps adults and families improve their financial stability by developing skills needed to get a job, increase and maximize income, and gain savings and assets.

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| Capital Workforce Partners | of New Britain, Inc. |
| Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. | Literacy Volunteers of Central CT |
| Connecticut Legal Services | New Britain Food Security Collaborative |
| Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Inc. | South Park Inn, Inc. |
| Hartford Areas Rally Together (HART) | United Labor Agency (John J. Driscoll United Labor Agency, Inc.) |
| Human Resources Agency of | |

Safety Net of Services — Helps provide a network of basic services for those most vulnerable or those faced with emergency needs.

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| American Red Cross – Middlesex Central CT Chapter | Services for the Elderly of Farmington |
| Catholic Charities, Inc., Archdiocese of Hartford | The Village for Families & Children |
| CCARC, Inc. | True Colors, Inc. Sexual Minority Youth and Family |
| Children's Law Center, Inc. | United Labor Agency (John J. Driscoll United Labor Agency, Inc.) |
| Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. | United Way of Connecticut, Inc/2-1-1 |
| Connecticut VNA Partners, Inc. | Visiting Nurse Association of Central Connecticut, Inc. |
| HARC, Inc. | VNA Health Care, Inc. |
| Hispanic Health Council, Inc. | YWCA of New Britain, Inc. |
| Interval House, Inc. | |
| Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford | |
| Prudence Crandall Center, Inc. | |
| Salvation Army – Greater Hartford | |



“I LIVE UNITED because helping others less fortunate gives a higher meaning to my life. As a new American, I believe our nation is unique because of our high level of solidarity and the social progress that comes from our strong communities.”

Enrique Juncadella, director of community relations, The Hospital of Central Connecticut, and advisory board member, United Way of New Britain and Berlin

