#StrongerUNITED



United Way of the









United Way of the Brown County Area, Inc. 2020-2021 Annual Report

301 20th Street South, Suite 7 - PO Box 476 - New Ulm, MN 56073 507-354-6512 or director@unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org www.UnitedwayBrownCountyArea.org

2020-2021 Board Members

The most important resource our community has is people...all of us who volunteer, who work, who invest and who care about making long term change in our community.



Brittney Schmiesing Board Chair Chuck Spaeth Ford



Nick Hage Vice Chair Citizens Insurance Agency



Jen Maurer Past Chair New Ulm Medical Center



Susannah Setterholm Treasurer Bank Midwest



Lisa Schweiss Campaign Chair 3M



Paulina Poplawska Community Investments New Ulm Public Library



Bill Aufderheide M.R. Paving & Excavating



Ana Beltran-Turbes Community Volunteer Sleepy Eye



Jeff Bertrang ISD 88 New Ulm



Chris Bowler Gislason & Hunter, LLC



Cheryl Diede Community Volunteer



Barb Dietz
Brown County Family Services



Liz Malloy New Ulm Park & Recreation



Cheryl Neidt Community Volunteer Springfield



Linda Neigebauer Community Volunteer New Ulm



Amber Portner Christensen Farms



Sandy Scheibel KNUJ Radio



Anna Vangsness SouthPoint Financial



Melissa Visser Citizens Bank



Glenn Zerbe Nuvera

* Not Pictured: Kelly Walden, AMPI Butter Plant

United Way Staff



Lori Pickell-Stangel Executive Director



Sarah Lee Finance & Administration

A Message from our Board Chair

Dear Friends of The United Way of the Brown County Area,

Our Mission statement at the United Way is- to be a collaborative community resource dedicated to identifying, uniting, and responding to the health, educational, and financial sustainability of every person in Brown County. Our 2020-21 Campaign year was able to do just that!

This year was one of the most difficult years we have had as an organization, yet we were #StrongerUnited and made it through the pandemic together! We were able to help so many people in Brown County all thanks to you.

We were able to raise almost \$261,000 through our campaign to help our 30 partner agencies through the pandemic. In addition to helping those partner agencies we were also able to provide 6,571 meals to students for Project Lunchbox, 204 youth activities scholarships awarded totaling \$25,500, 95 volunteers helped with 52 projects for Day of Caring, 553 taxes were able to be completed at the tax preparation program and 13,200 books were mailed to children through Imagination Library.

We are so incredibly grateful for the support that we have from our community. I am confident that as a whole we are going to come back even stronger to make the United Way 2021-22 Campaign year a great one.

It was an honor to serve on The Board as Chairperson. Thank you to our dedicated staff, board and to the many individuals who have supported our organization through their generosity.

Sincerely,

Brittney Schmiesing

2020 United Way Board Chair

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Our Mission & Vision



Mission: To be a collaborative community resource dedicated to identifying, uniting, and responding to the health, educational, and financial sustainability of every person in Brown County

Vision: Connecting people to resources

Core Values:

Accountability-To be responsible, honest, and transparent in the communities we serve
 Leadership— To step forward to unite, inform, and provide opportunities for community service
 Inclusivity— To intentionally seek out and welcome all, embracing differences and meeting
 Individual needs

Who We Serve

The United Way of the Brown County Area provides program services and connects people to resources in New Ulm, Hanska, Searles, Evan, Sleepy Eye, Springfield, Comfrey, Essig, Levenworth, and Cobden.

We believe that by elevating and aiding the most in need in our service area, we can make every person's life better in Brown County.

Brown County

Our Strategic Plan Focus Areas:

- Health- Promoting healthy physical and mental well-being and creating access to activities and tools that encourage healthy lifestyles.
- Education— Helping Brown County residents of every age reach their full potential and grow,
- Financial Sustainability Promoting individual and family income sustainability and human basic needs.

The United Way of the Brown County Area works to connect Brown County residents to emergency resources, access to educational opportunities, stable employment, and healthy physical and mental well-being. We accomplish these goals through the United Way in-house programs, our nonprofit Leadership Group, and through collaboration with county wide partner organizations. For more information on these partners and programs:

United Way In-House Programs:

Partner Grantee Organizations:

Brown County Non-profit Leadership Group:

Welcoming Communities Project:

Our Community Role

The United Way of the Brown County Area strives to move beyond just being a funding source for other local non-profits in our service area. Work with community partners on a regular basis to set a list of priorities in the categories of Health, Education, and Financial Sustainability.

Our goal is to be an indispensable community partner that helps to **Research** the unique issues currently facing Brown County, seek out **Collaborations** with other local businesses and organizations that are currently or who want to help us address those issues, organize and encourage **Volunteerism** needed to do the work, and make financial and educational **Investments** through grant funds and programs to the organizations and groups tackling those identified issues.

Thank you to all our collaborators, volunteers, partner's and investors that help the United Way make Brown County a better place to work and live!



United Way Community Programs

The United Way of the Brown County Area has eight in-house programs that serve local families and individuals to ensure that the needs of Brown County are being met.

Youth Activity Scholarship Program:

In 2020-2021 the United Way Youth Activities Scholarship Program gave out 204 scholarships totaling over \$25,000. These scholarships have gone to young people throughout Brown County, ages 3 to 18, whose family income is insufficient to afford activity and/or equipment fees. Scholarships are available for up to \$200 per year per youth and provide 80% of the activity fees and 50% of the equipment costs. The goal of this program is to ensure that area youth will not be denied the opportunity to participate in character building activities ranging from music and dance lessons to sports and other activities.



204 Scholarships were awarded to Brown County Youth to participate in a life enriching activity.

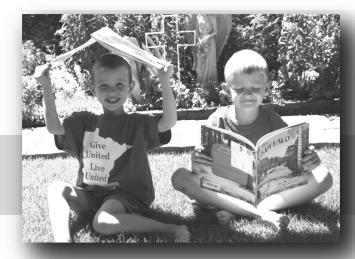
Imagination Library:

The United Way of the Brown County Area continued their Imagination Library program's vision to foster a love of reading among preschool children and their families, by providing them with the gift of a book each month. By mailing high quality, age-appropriate books directly to their homes, children get excited about books and begin to feel the magic that books can create. The Dolly Parton Foundation ensures that every child, 0-5 years old, regardless of family's income, can participate. This year the United Way has provided 1,100 books mailed out to Brown County

children each month.

As we face continued challenges to meet the demands of a high-tech world, we need to do whatever we can to make sure that our youngest citizens are prepared to succeed.

1,100 free books mailed out each month to kids age 0-5 years old.



United Way Community Programs continued...

The United Way of the Brown County Area has eight in-house programs that serve local families and individuals to ensure that the needs of Brown County are being met.

Stuff the Backpacks-School Supply Drive - Celebrating our 20th Anniversary!

In 2021, over 350 backpacks filled with each child's school supply list was given to children in need all over Brown County. These backpacks were made available to ensure that every child is able to get off to a good start this school year. The United Way partnered with Bank Midwest for the third year as our Program Partner. Not only do their employees donate, they also volunteer, with Bank Midwest purchasing the remaining school supplies needed to complete every child's shopping list. More than 40 businesses, organizations, and individual donors gave cash donation and or school supplies to make our program a success. This is a county-wide program and we could not do it without the generosity of the citizens of every community in Brown County.





United Way provided over 350 backpacks filled with all the school supplies needed to go back to school in 2021 with the tools to learn.

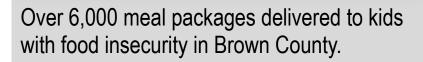


Project Lunchbox-Weekend food program for kids

Project Lunchbox is a weekend food program for kids in PreK-8th grade in the New Ulm School District. This is our third year providing this much needed program in the New Ulm School District, and thanks to Christensen Farms our Program Partner, we will be doing it again this school year! Christensen Farm employee's volunteer each year to pack meals and donate to help the United Way purchase food each month for the meal packages through Second Harvest Heartland. These food packages include up to two meals, two snacks, and two beverages and are delivered each week to all the schools that have signed up for the program. Hunger can have a huge impact on young children, causing anxiety, poor behavior, and impairment to learning. United Way of the Brown County Area and Christensen Farms are committed to ensuring that no child goes hungry over the weekend in Brown County!









United Way Community Programs continued...

The United Way of the Brown County Area has eight in-house programs that serve local families and individuals to ensure that the needs of Brown County are being met.

Day of Caring

Our normal 2020 Fall Day of Caring was cancelled due to a snow storm. Due to this, the United Way of the Brown County Area hosted a Spring Day of Caring on Saturday, May 1st, 2021. The Day of Caring is an annual event to make a positive difference through volunteering. 95 volunteers on 20 teams spent their Saturday helping others in our county. 52 projects were completed in New Ulm, Hanska, and Springfield. This program is at the bedrock of what we do, connecting our greatest resource, our people, to those who need a helping hand. Our Fall Day of Caring will be scheduled as usual in October of 2021, so if you would like to sign up a volunteer team or know someone who could use a helping hand, contact the United Way.

95 volunteers completed 52 projects for those needing help in and outside their homes in Brown County!





Thanks GSM for being our Day of Caring Program Partner!



Free Tax Preparation Program

There are many barriers residents encounter in getting their taxes done each year. Time, access, understanding of the tax system, or just a lack of funds to pay someone to do their taxes. Whatever the barrier, United Way of the Brown County Area's FREE Tax Preparation Program is here to help. Each year community members volunteer to become IRS Certified Tax Prepares and/or Client Facilitators through VITA to help local area citizens. This puts thousands of refund tax dollars back into our communities and into the hands of those who need it the most.



553 Brown County residents had their taxes prepared for FREE.



United Way Youth & Senior Service Resource Directories

It is the United Way's mission to connect our community members to the resources they need when they need them. One way we do this each year is through our Youth and Senior Service Resource Directories. These paper booklets are updated each year to provide a one stop shop to Brown County's organizations, businesses, and community programs and groups offering services for youths and seniors. If you would like a copy/copies of our directories, please contact the United Way.

Thanks to Oak Hills, our Program Partner, the United Way was able to distribute over 1,000 FREE Directories last year!

Living United KNUJ Radio and NUCAT Cable Access Show



Living United is a Cable Access and Radio show hosted by the United Way of the Brown County Area and sponsored by Alliance Bank. The Living United Series is a tool to connect people to resources in the Brown County Area and offer a platform for our local nonprofits to share current events, programs, and needs to the public. Living United airs on NUCAT Thursdays at 8PM and Saturdays at 4:30PM, and on KNUJ the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 1:15 PM. Tune in and help us Live UNITED!

23 community business & nonprofit guests featured last year.

Thank you for being our Program Partner!

ALLIANCE BANK

Campaign Recognition-Thanks to everyone's generosity!

More than 60 businesses partner with United Way every year. These businesses serve as a role model for corporate social responsibility, which in turn creates a culture of caring among their employees. Additionally, they are leading the way by empowering and encouraging their employees to get involved, volunteer and give back to the community we all call home - and it's having a positive impact on the lives of men, women and children in Brown County.

2019 Campaign Award Winners recognized at the 2020 Campaign Kick-Off Event









2020 Campaign Advertising Partners

Alliance Bank, Bank Midwest, Citizens Bank of MN, GSM, Sleepy Eye Coffee Company, Hy-Vee, Lola - An American Bistro, Print Wear Graphics, The Loft Nutrition, The Tunnel Car Wash, Christensen Farms

\$10,000-\$24,00 Cash Wise Foods Minnesota Valley Testing Labs

\$5,000-\$9,999

3W

Chuck Spaeth Ford, NU & SE Citizens Bank

ISD 88 (New Ulm Schools)

M.R. Paving & Excavating

Nuvera

Physicians Group

\$2,500-\$4,999

City of New Ulm
Design Home Center
EON, Inc.
F & M Bank, Springfield
Gislason & Hunter

Inspired Windings

\$1,000-\$2,499

Alliance Bank

AMPI

Blethen Berens

Bob Webb Insurance Agency Brown County Employees

Brown County REA

City of Springfield

CliftonLarsonAllen

Drs. Akre & Clark

KNUJ Radio

NU Journal

NU Public Utilities

Roth, Herzog & Associates United Prairie Bank

\$500-\$999

AMPI Butter Plant

Bank Midwest

Century 21 Realty

City of Sleepy Eye

ISD # 84 (Sleepy Eye Schools)

NU Medical Center

New Ulm Regional Veterinary

Center

River Bend Education District

Royal Tire

Schwartz Farms

South Point Financial Credit

Union

\$250-\$499

Frandsen Bank & Trust NU Chamber of Commerce Wells Fargo

Bold = Includes Corporate Gift

Business Blitz-Campaign

The eleventh annual Business Blitz was held on Thursday, October 15th, 2020. Over 20 volunteers reached out to more than 450 businesses in New Ulm, Sleepy Eye & Springfield from 8:30-Noon! We were overwhelmed with the support from our small businesses that typically have not gotten a personal visit on behalf of the United Way. Thank you.

New Ulm

Ahrens Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. Altmann Repair, LLC

Antiques Plus Auto Value

Broadway Chiropractic Wellness Center

Broadway Hairstylists Casey's General Store Classic Trends

Concordia Lanes

Dan Hirth Insurance & Investments

Dave's Vinyl Top Service David Hirth Insurance Dennis Spiral Tax Service Domeier's German Store

Double Dimension Family Hair Care

Edward Jones. Chris Jensen

Farasyn Construction Fischer Law

Fodness Heating, Air Conditioning

& Seamless Gutters Inc.

Forst Transfer. Inc.

Furth-Meile Insurance. Inc.

G&K Engines G&S Manufacturing

Heine Law PA

Hoffman Construction

Investment & Insurance Services of New Ulm Miller Sellner Jamie L. Rieser Counseling & Consulting

Ken Griebel Massage, LLC

Kraus Tree Service

Liquor Mart

Lori J. Mickelson Agency Mike's Collision & Repair Center Minnesota Valley Funeral Home NAPA Auto & Truck Parts of New Ulm

Nancy's Hands On Therapeutic Massage

New Ulm Body Shop, Inc. New Ulm Bus Lines, Inc. New Ulm Feed and Supply New Ulm Glass Co Inc New Ulm Quick Mart **New Ulm Real Estate**

New Ulm Turner Hall Rathskeller Nicklasson Athletic Company, Inc. Nierengarten & Hippert, LTD

Nilson Heating & Air Conditioning Northwestern Mutual Financial Network

New Ulm

ORIGO

Patterson's Diamon Centers Plaza Garibaldi Mexican Restaurant

Preferred Insurance **Printwear Graphics** Reinarts Repair River Creek Nursery

Rooms & Rest

Schultz Plumbing, Heating & Drain Cleaning Sewing Seeds Quilt Co. Shellie R. Kahler, Inc. Sid's Signs on Broadway Sozial Restaurant & Bar

Spinning Spools Quilt Shop/Earthen Art

Stadick Body Shop Tech Unlimited, LLC Ulmer Café

Windschitl Insurance Services LLC

Woodview Dental Clinic

Sleepy Eye

Culligan Soft Water Service

Edward Jones

*Erickson Construction First Security Agency

Mark Thomas Co.

Novotny Real Estate Pat Lowther Attorney Stark Farmers Mutual Insurance

Springfield

Absolute Style Salon Clements Lumber **Deluxe Print & Promotions** F & M Insurance Agency Fritz's Place Glen's Auto Supply Graff Insurance Jeff's Body Shop Miesen's Color Center Muske, Muske & Suhrhoff LTD O'leary & Moritz Chartered Petersen Car Wash, Inc. Prairie Plans Red Rock Bank Reiner Real Estate LLC

Riverside Animal Clinic Runnings Farm & Fleet

Salon Concepts

Salonek Concrete & Construction Inc. SouthPoint Financial Credit Union Springfield Advance Press

Springfield Alternator Shop

Springfield Floral

Springfield Rotary Club

Springfield Welding & Trailer Repair State Farm Insurance - Kelsey Fossing Agency

Teske Manufacturing Inc.

Tommy's Central Steak House

Comfrey

Brickstone Manor Kevin's Body Shop Lifetime Insurance Mike's Discount Foods T&C Service Center Triumph State Bank

> *First Year Blitz Givers Bold = Gave over \$250

2020 Business Blitz Winner KNUJ Radio Ad Package Patterson's Diamond Centers



United Way Leadership Givers

Almost one third of the dollars raised in last year's 2020 campaign came from the United Way Leadership Circle. We truly appreciate their commitment to improving the lives in Brown County.

\$10,000+

Roger & Carol Ryberg

Sleepy Eye Area Anonymous Donor

\$2,500 to \$4,999

John & Sharon Illikman

Mark & Gaile Furth

Glen Hurley

Gary & Joleen Koch

Philip Meidl & Ruth Ann Webster

Jim & Jane Walsh

Paul & Sharon Pieschel

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Stephen & Debbie Akre

Ruth Anderson

Tom & Kathleen Berg

Andy & Anne Biebl

Vincent & Patty Bourgault

Craig Braulick

Lisa Drill

Dan & Peg Drugan

Thomas & Laurie Fox

Gail Gilman

Andrew Hammerschmidt

Duane & Karla Hansel

Tom & Shirley Henderson

John & Patricia Heymann

John H. Heymann

Gary & Marion Klimmek

Jim Bodine & Joan Krikava

Darlane Krohn

Dean & Shirley Laraway

Matt Lieser

Nina Lovell

Ruth McCrea Simpson

Denis Miling

Tim & Lora Rahe

Robert & Gayle Ranweiler

Scott & Gigi Rysdahl

Annette Schmit-Cline

Joe & Michelle Sellner

Bob and Colleen Skillings

Bill & Jane Steinke

Bob & Jesilda Webb

Paul Wojahn

Damian Wilmot

\$500 to \$999

Melissa Alam

Bill & Valerie Aufderheide

Terrance & Mary Ann Baumgart

Anthony Berdan

Nate Beran

Jeff & Wendy Bertrang

Bob & Patti Bode

Barb & Charlie Bornhoft

Bryan & Christine Brock

Steve Bowen

John Brownfield

Darrin & Carisa Buegler

Donn & Barb DeVelder
Robert & Mary Ellen Domeier

Mike & Deborah Dove

John & Barb Dietz

Florian & Rosemary Dittrich

Bradford Ellis

Russell Elston

Peter & Annette Engeldinger

Lyle Erickson

Dennis Geisenhof

Nancy & Dan Gislason

Polly Glaser

Nancy Grausam

Steve & Jeannine Grosam

Robert & Brenda Gruenhagen

Neil & Karen Gulden

Nick Hage

Robert Docherty & Linda Heine

Pat Herzog

Charles & Roberta Hintz

Kurt & Anne-Lise Johnson

Kara Jorve

Joel & JoAnn Kamerud

Drs. Jagan Jakkula & Tulasi Kanukuntla

Lori Klev

Mary Laraway

Mike & Karole Lieb

Ingrid & Lowell Liedman

Russell Louisiana

Darnelle Mammen

Patty & Jeffrey Matthews

Jason & Melanie Mohror

Linda & Peter Neigebauer

Jessica Olson

Chris & Jim Olson

Chris & Jim Oison

Karl & Gwen Papierniak

Ben & Vicki Pieser

Harold & Maxine Remme

Robert Ries

Dean & Joanne Risius

Chris Robb

Thomas Ryan

Rebecca & David Schaetzke

Steve & Becky Schneider

Mat & Brittney Schmiesing

Richard & Sharon Seeboth

Michael & Audra Shaneman

Butch & Lauri Stark

Mark & Sue Ullery

Curt & Joann Windschitl

Patrick Valorn

Bold-Sustaining donors who have contributed for 10 or more years and exceeded \$5000.

Care was taken to assure the accuracy of the Leadership & Emerging Leaders lists based on information obtained from our Donation Tracker Program.

Should you note any oversight, United Way of Brown County extends our apologies. Please contact us at 507-354-6512.

Community Investment Grants

Each year the United Way awards grant funds to support the direct service programs of agencies across Brown County who are delivering outcomes in support of the Community Investments Program. Funding decisions are made by volunteers through a citizen review process and approved by the United Way Board of Directors. During 2020 the United Way of the Brown County Area is honored to partner with the agencies that received funds through this process.

Community Investments improves lives by investing in five strategies: Nurturing Children, Youth & Families, Building Self Sufficiency, Meeting Basic Needs, Health & Wellness and Enriching Lives of Seniors.

Basic Needs: \$39,500



Education: \$47,900



American Red Cross-Brown/Nicollet Chapter	\$10,000
CADA-Committee Against Domestic Abuse, Inc.	\$ 3,000
Lutheran Social Services – Senior Nutrition	\$ 8,000
New Ulm Area Emergency Food Shelf	\$ 2,000
New Ulm Clothing Depot	\$ 1,500
NUMAS Haus	\$10,000
Salvation Army	\$ 5,000

Eagles Preschool Program	\$10,000
Early Childhood & Family Education New Ulm	\$ 8,500
Girl Scouts of MN & WI River Valley	\$ 5,000
Healthy Communities/Health Youth	\$ 6,400
Pro Kinship for Kids	\$15,000
Sleepy Eye Early Childhood &Family Education	\$ 3,000

Financial Stability: \$16,500



Brown County Habitat for Humanity	\$ 1,000
Life-Work Planning Center	\$11,500
Lutheran Social Services – Financial Counseling	\$ 4,000

Total Grant Funding: \$150,000

2020 Internal Programs: \$73,235

Jnited	
Way	

United Way Backpack Program	\$ 3,	,823
United Way Youth Activities Scholarships	\$21	,255
Imagination Library	\$26	,880
Project Lunchbox	\$20	,800
Tax Program	\$	477

Health: \$46,100



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Adaptive Recreation Services	\$11,000
Brown County Public Health-Universal Contact	\$ 3,000
MRCI	\$ 4,000
SMILES	\$ 2,000
Compassionate Friends	\$ 1,200
Open Door Health Clinic	\$ 2,000
Lutheran Social Services - Respite Care	\$ 1,200
Boy Scouts Twin Valley Council	\$ 9,200
Community & Seniors Together – CAST	\$12,500

2020 Other Distributions

Venture Grant Allocations:	\$ 0
Other Donor Designated Beneficiaries	\$ 181

COVID-19 Emergency Funds:

COVID-19 NonProfit Emergency
Assistance Grants \$27,161

Total Fund Distribution: \$250,577

Accounting to the Community

There is nothing more important to the United Way of the Brown County Area than the trust and confidence of our donors. Accounting is maintained with regular finance and program reports, audits, and on-site visits. For a complete copy of our audited financial statements, please contact us at 507-354-6512 or view it online at www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org

The United Way of the Brown County has a philosophical belief in providing efficiency in local fundraising. We encourage efficiency through collaboration among agencies and programs, building cooperation and eliminating duplication of services, while strengthening our community.

ASSETS	July 31, 2020	July 31, 2019
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 131,081	\$ 110,141
Short-term investments	\$ 227,975	\$ 217,190
Unconditional promises to give:		
Annual Campaign, Less Allowances		
of \$15,000 and \$12,000, respectively	\$ 46,414	\$ 48,180
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 4,57 <u>8</u>	\$ 4,62 <u>4</u>
	\$ 410,048	\$ 380,135
Downster and Southernest		
Property and Equipment	ć 42.447	ć 12.447
Office Equipment	\$ 13,447	\$ 13,447
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	\$ (13,027)	\$ (12,730)
	\$ 420	\$ 717
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 410,468	\$ 380,852
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts & Designations Payable	\$ 12,737	\$ 27,876
Agency Allocations Payable	\$ 150,000	\$ 79,464
COVID-19 Grant Funds Payable	\$ 13,911	\$ -
SBA PPP Loan Payable	<u>\$ 150,000</u>	\$ <u>-</u>
	\$ 192,148	\$ 107,340
NET ASSETS	\$ 192,148	\$ 107,340
NET ASSETS Undesignated	\$ 192,148 \$ 218,320	\$ 107,340 \$ 273,512
	, ,	, ,
Undesignated	\$ 218,320	\$ 273,512

The accounting firm of Roth, Herzog & Associates Chartered conducted an independent review of the United Way of the Brown County Area's financial records as of July 31, 2020. This review was presented and approved by the United Way of the Brown County's Board of Directors in June of 2020. A copy of the most recent review is available upon request.





United Way of the Brown County Area, Inc. - 301 20th Street South, PO Box 476 - New Ulm, MN 56073 Ph: 507-354-6512 - Fax: 507-354-9712 - www.unitedwaybrowncountyarea.org