

**United Way Center
Christmas Eve Fire**
(updated 1/4/10 – see revised list P.2)

The United Way of Bartholomew County (45 miles south of Indianapolis in Columbus) was devastated by fire on Christmas. The United Way Center housed 37 agencies including governmental and nonprofit organizations (see list below). About 275 employees worked in the building. What was not burned was lost to smoke and water damage. This is a tremendous loss for a community recovering from the 100-year flood in June 2008. *The Republic* (Columbus’s local newspaper) has extensive coverage of the magnitude of this fire (including video) at www.therepublic.com.



Permission, Joe Harpring, *The Republic*, www.therepublic.com

The United Way of Bartholomew County (UWBC) has requested that contacts and emails be kept to a minimum so they can give their full attention to recovering from this disaster while still completing their local UW campaign. Lucinda Nord (lucinda.nord@iauw.org), VP of Public Policy at the Indiana Association of United Ways, is temporarily serving as UWBC’s liaison for out-of-county contacts (i.e. for United Way family).

UWBC has established a **fire fund** and contributions may be sent to:
United Way of Bartholomew County Fire Fund
PO Box 1147, Columbus, IN 47202-1147

In-kind donations of new and gently used materials for United Way and its agencies are listed on the following page. Please note the list of special needs items used with and/or loaned to clients. Please contact Lucinda Nord (lucinda.nord@iauw.org) regarding any out-of-area products available for donation for any of the agencies.

AGENCIES HOUSED IN BUILDING

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Advocates for Children (CASA) | Easter Seals of Bartholomew County | Momentive Credit Counseling |
| Aging and Community Services | Epilepsy Foundation | NAACP |
| The ARC | Family Services, Inc. | Sans Souci (thrift store/job training) |
| Bartholomew County Genealogy Society (storage only) | First Call For Help 211 | Senior Products |
| Bartholomew County Historical Society (storage only) | First Steps | Stonebelt (developmental disabilities) |
| Caring Parents | Healthy Families | Su Casa Columbus (Latino services) |
| Child Abuse Prevention Council | IN Dept of Child Services | Turning Point (domestic violence) |
| Childhood Connections (CCRR) | IN Division of Family Resources | United Methodist District Office |
| Community Partners, Children’s Bureau (home visiting) | Islam Society of Columbus | United Way of Bartholomew County |
| Columbus Service League (storage) | Lasting Impressions (historic clothing - storage only) | Volunteer Action Center |
| Developmental Services, Inc. | Legal Aid | White’s Residential and Family Services |
| | Mission Resources International | |

NEEDS, 1/4/10

CASH AND IN-KIND DONATIONS –

United Way has a temporary donated warehouse until new interim location is secured. Items designated for specific agencies should be marked when shipped/delivered.

Cubicle/furniture/special equipment deliveries to:

Carrico Furniture Warehouse
2980 N. National, Columbus, IN 47201

Call Angie to arrange entry to warehouse, 812-343-6717.

Computer deliveries/shipments to (designate "Fire"):

Tech Re-Connect
1525 14th Street, Columbus, IN 47201

Cash donations may be made to:

United Way of Bartholomew County Fire Fund
P.O. Box 1147, Columbus, IN 47202-1147

CASH is needed to support

- Immediate needs while waiting for insurance
- Gas cards for volunteers and staff
- Cell phone service while agency phones are forwarded to personal cell phones
- Volunteer needs (safety equipment, supplies etc)
- Support Sans Souci which is losing \$1600/day in thrift store sales that supports job training
- Tech Re-Connect to refurbish donated computers

OFFICES ITEMS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

Items for recovery efforts

Flashlights, boots, gloves, large plastic tubs

Items for new temporary location (about 150 employees)

Walls for cubicles (about 50-100; likely need at least 100)
Waiting room furniture (PENDING out-of-state donation?)
Art work for waiting room and signage
Multi-box keyed postal mail box for multiple agencies
Phone system for multiple offices
Hoyer lift for restroom

Office Furniture for Agencies

Desks and Work tables
File cabinets, bookcases, waste baskets

Computer/Office Equipment for Agencies

Used computers (thanks, Harrison College and FFY)
New computers, flat screen monitors, keyboards, mice
Large, fast copier for shared services
Copiers, printers and fax machines
Phone system with telephones
Wireless G Network adapter cards
Surge protectors, network cables, RAM (DDR 2100-2700 and PC 3200 for refurbishing), USB cords, 4-port hubs

Office Supplies for Agencies

Calculators, staplers, hole punches, pens, pads of paper, paperclips, Copier paper, file folders (new) and labels
Thank you notes

TO RESUME CLIENT SERVICE, NEED THESE

Aging and Community Services – Items to rebuild senior meal delivery program, including 12-15 Coleman coolers, commercial size freezer and convection oven, 2 commercial size milk coolers/refrigerators, thermal carriers

Caring Parents and Healthy Families– items for home visits with new parents - rattles, teething rings, digital thermometers, onsies, bibs, first aid kits, sleep sacks, new binders, outlet plug covers, diapers and rash ointment

Child Abuse Prevention Council – special puppets and curriculum for "Kids on The Block" program

Childhood Connections – Items to replace lending library of special needs topical books (about different disabilities) and equipment, i.e. Boardmaker, high chairs, bumbo seats, special needs and diversity dolls, laminator, science & math kits for 2-5 yr-olds, curriculum kits, adaptive equipment for children

Community Partners, Children's Bureau – provide things that food stamps don't buy to families on home visits, i.e. diapers/wipes, toilet paper, laundry soap, trash bags, toothpaste, shampoo, gas cards

Easter Seals – adaptive and mobility equipment for lending, i.e. wheelchairs, walkers, shower seats, c-pap/bi-pap machines, lift chairs, hospital beds, mattresses, nebulizers, adult pull-ups

Family Services – therapeutic books, curriculum and games for counseling, anger management and positive parenting, assessment tools for use w/DCS children, **FCFH 2-1-1** –Call Center headsets (thanks, Monroe, LA), computers (thanks, UW-Richmond, VA), still need ACD, etc.

Islam Society – prayer rugs

School supply program – backpacks, calculators, notebooks, folders, pencils, erasers, glue, supplies K-12.

Stonebelt – board games and art supplies for adult day program, Hoyer lift



VOLUNTEERS – United Way and agencies will need volunteers to help with recovery and continuing service. Local/regional volunteers may register online with the United Way Volunteer Center. Go to <http://www.uwbarthco.org>. Click on VOLUNTEER.

Special volunteer needs

Semi trucks and drivers to pick up donated goods