

Boy Scouts of America

STORY: Recently Boy Scout District Executive Mike Cowles got a hug at an October campout from a young boy who thanked him for recruiting him into the Boy Scout Program. This young man is active in Troop # 340 at the LaVergne First United Methodist Church. In the past 11 years this young man has been a ward of the state having been placed in foster care in multiple homes and consequently attending several different schools. From the night he joined, the Scout Troop welcomed him into their group and immediately assimilated him into their activities. He is making great progress in the Troop and having fun in that process. **For the first time in this young man's life, he is involved with a peer group where he's welcome and wanted.** It's important to remember that Scouting provides a peer group where thousands of youth "fit in" and in that process develop the values and skills that make them contributing adult citizens.

IMPACT: Thanks to the support of the United Way of Rutherford County, the Middle Tennessee Council served 3,392 youth in the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venturing, & Explorer Programs during 2009. Among our most proud for this year were:

1.) 37 Boy Scouts earning the Eagle Rank. 2.) 276 Boy Scouts having a week long summer camp experience at Boxwell Reservation. 3.) 381 Cub Scouts attending Cub Scout Day Camp. 4.) 38 Boys attending Winter Camp. In addition to participating in activities these youth find fun and exciting, they were instilled with the time honored values the Scouting Program espouses including teamwork, goal orientation, respect for peers and adults, respect for the environment, and the value of community service.

Boys and Girls Club

STORY: The Boys & Girls Club is able to help hundreds of youth throughout the year. One youth in particular epitomizes what the Boys & Girls Club is all about. "Billy" is a 14 yr old Freshman who has been in constant trouble with the law, including pulling a gun on a police officer and getting kicked out of school for having alcohol with him. While in Juvenile Court the Judge ordered him to attend the Boys & Girls Club for a specified amount of time. As a result, "Billy" was required to attend. The wonderful part is that he continues to come each day after his required time had expired. He now comes on a regular basis. He says the Club is his home away from home and that the Club is changing his life. Now he is giving back by tutoring the Pee Wees (5-6 yr olds) with their homework.

IMPACT: Because of United Way funding the Boys & Girls Club was able to serve over 1,600 youth in 2009. The Boys & Girls Club is able to have the following impact on the community: lower juvenile crime, higher graduation rates, fewer pregnancies, improved academics, physical fitness, better start in life, and emphasis on excellence.

Children's Museum Corporation of Rutherford County

STORY: Discovery Center is a cultural institution committed to serving the needs and interests of children by providing exhibits and programs that stimulate curiosity and motivate learning. At Discovery Center, kids become excited while they learn who they are, how the world works, solve problems, and express feelings. Intrinsic to the goal of creating a children's museum is the core concept that the museum is for everyone. Project Reach Out is the catalyst to our core belief by providing school group fee waivers for students on free/reduced lunch, annual free days, free family memberships and passes. We have received numerous requests from teachers, visitors and children to continue and expand the program. Comments include:

- "We are very thankful for this scholarship program because these [free/reduced lunch] are the students who benefit the most. Thank you!" Bradley Academy
- "Without this program, we would not be able to attend. Thank you!" John Coleman Elementary
- "Thank you for not only having this event, but also for offering it free to those who may not have come otherwise!"

IMPACT:

In 2009 the Discovery Center:

- Provided free programming to 3,393 school children on free/reduced lunch.
- Provided 100 free family memberships to at-risk children
- Provided free admission for 6,929 visitors during 8 free days

Over 15% of Discovery Center visitors were admitted free through outreach programs in 2009. This would not be possible without your support through UWRCC.

Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee

STORY: A child of a single-parent family, with economical challenges, entered a Girl Scout troop in elementary school. Girl Scouts programming was instrumental for this Rutherford County young person to attend college when she received a scholarship as a result of her Girl Scout community Service Hours, and earning the Gold Award which is the highest leadership achievement award.

IMPACT: Through the support of United Way donors, 1,858 Rutherford and Cannon County girls were provided opportunities in Girl Scouts five focus areas of financial literacy, the arts, math, science, and technology, healthy living, and leadership by 334 trained adult volunteers serving as mentors and role models within the troop settings.

STARS – Students Taking A Right Stand

STORY: During small group at Rockvale Middle school, some 6th grade boys were talking about another boy who was bullying other students on the bus, saying mean things to students during lunch and writing nasty comments on the bathroom stalls. The Specialist asked the boys if there was something they could do to help this other student. Their first response was, "Let's get back at him!" The Specialist then asked them if this student seemed happy. Upon reflection, one of the boys in the small group said, "Actually, when he gets on the bus in the morning it looks like he's been crying." She then asked them if this boy had other friends, if he sat with anyone on the bus. They said, "No." The Specialist then suggested that they invite this boy into their small group. At first the boys thought this to be a bad idea but finally agreed. The next week the other boy participated in the group. Suddenly, the boys realized they were more alike than different from one another. Since this group, the boys are all friends. They have a sense of belonging. The Specialist has received no negative reports about the boy's behavior. In fact, all the reports are positive.

IMPACT: Your generous and important support allowed STARS's SAP services to reach over 14,300 elementary, middle and elementary aged students in Rutherford County. We were able to facilitate 1,664 individual counseling sessions and complete 479 intake assessments. Of these 479 students, 51% (238) were referred to community based services and 69% (165) of those received those services.

Youth CAN – Career Action Network

STORY: Ana, a student at Blackman High School, was enrolled in the Youth CAN program a year ago. At her initial meeting with her case manager she was a shy young lady who avoided eye contact and gave simple one word responses. She had a history of depression and many other obstacles standing in her path to success. Ana desired a career in art, but had little knowledge of the field. Her case manager arranged a meeting for her with an art teacher who has experience in the private art industry, which was an eye opening encounter for Ana. She realized the difficulties in making a living as an artist, but also that

she could work in a field utilizing her skills and love of art. She earned an opportunity to put those skills to use when she was offered a position at the Discovery Center through Youth CAN's summer work program. The employer noted her excellent art skills, as well as her ability to interact with the children at the center. This experience inspired Ana to utilize her creativity and skills on a higher level and at the same time improved her confidence tremendously. By the end of the summer, Ana had enrolled in classes at Motlow, and since then has also started her own business. She is screening tee-shirts and designing logos for several local bands, and is enjoying success with the project. Regardless of the future of this business, Youth CAN is confident that the experiences, support, and opportunities that she has gained through our program have equipped her for success in any path she chooses.

IMPACT: In the last year, Youth CAN reached approximately 335 participants in Rutherford County. Of those youth, 40% increased one or more educational function level within one year of program entry; 70% attained a high school diploma, GED, or other qualified credential; and 70% entered employment, the military, postsecondary school, and/or advanced training. To achieve these measures, they may have received any number of services: tutoring, paid work experiences, leadership development, life and work skills, job prep and search, and financial assistance to remove the obstacles in their way. In addition, their case managers served as mentors, someone in their lives they could truly trust, perhaps for the first time.

Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee- Community Food Partners

STORY: We often hear the stories of grateful recipients of food assistance. A few months ago, a woman with her 3 year old daughter in tow told us she had heard about the help Second Harvest provides, and had walked several miles to find the food distribution she had been told about. With tears in her eyes, and her head held high, she thanked us for putting her mind at ease about where she was going to get the money to buy groceries for her little girl. She smiled as she took her child's hand and began the slow walk back home. It is stories like these that remind us why we do what we do.

IMPACT: During FY08-09, the Community Food Partners program delivered 596,549 pounds of food in Rutherford County and 46,275 pounds of food in Cannon County. Funding from United Way of Rutherford/Cannon Counties helped keep Rutherford and Cannon food pantries well-stocked during an increasingly uncertain economic time for many people.

The Community Helpers, Inc.

STORY: Victoria A. is a single mom of 2 children and receives no child support. In the economic downturn, she lost 2 of the 3 jobs she worked to make ends meet. Community Helpers assisted her with her utility bills during a hard January. Due to your generous support of United Way, Victoria's heat was kept on in the dead of winter.

IMPACT: Keeping the heat/cooling system on is essential for the health and welfare of our clients. In our last fiscal year we assisted 1963 families with rent and utilities, 851 of these families were new: 1,175 of these families received food stamps. For those in government subsidized housing, a cut off of a utility can cause them to lose their housing. Without the help of Community Helpers many people behind in their rent or mortgage would have lost their housing as well. The referrals made on behalf of our clients also provide needed support to families in desperate situations. If we did not have United Way support, our doors would close leaving many families without the necessities of utilities, prescription medicines, dental help and a roof over their head.

Mid-Cumberland HRA- Meals-on-Wheels & Senior Dining

STORY: Mid-Cumberland HRA's Meals-on-Wheels & Senior Dining Program visited a gruff, grouchy dirty older gentleman living in a one room apartment. This referral happened to be a Vietnam Veteran with

both legs amputated, and he was very angry that one of his neighbors had called to get him meals on wheels. After a while he agreed to "try it".

For a while, the volunteers complained about the gruff attitude and his tendency to use bad language...then one day a volunteer came back from delivering and declared with a big smile, "I just love that Mr. G. You have to look past the gruff exterior". Now she even makes him her last stop so she can stay a while and visit!

Today, Mr. G seems more pleasant and is happier. He is eating better, and has truly found a friend. The daily visit by a caring volunteer is often as important as the food itself.

IMPACT: Because of your support thru UWRCC, in FY 2009, Mid-Cumberland HRA's Meals-on-Wheels & Senior Dining Program served 62,147 meals to 615 seniors in Rutherford County. These seniors were able to maintain a healthy, independent lifestyle; and of those seniors who received 60 meals or more, 84% showed an increase in daily intake of fruits, vegetables, and milk. And more than just the meal, these seniors have the added benefit of a friendly face visiting every day!

Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee- Middle Tennessee's Table

STORY: We recently heard a story about a woman who came to one of our partner agencies that is also a domestic violence shelter. She and her four children were starting over with a new life, since they had to escape her husband/abuser and leave their hometown, their house and all of their belongings. As our agency told us "We were so blessed to be able to provide for them with enough food and personal toiletries to last for several days...She left encouraged and hopeful, and we were blessed as well to provide her with help in such a practical way." Through programs like Middle Tennessee's Table, we are able to contribute to such agencies to provide assistance in a comprehensive way.

IMPACT: The Middle Tennessee's Table program provided x pounds of food to the hungry in Rutherford County, and x in Cannon County. Because of Middle Tennessee's Table, your hungry neighbors received x nutritious meals. Funding from UWRCC helped Middle Tennessee's Table provide this service during an especially difficult and uncertain economic time when families who have never experienced hunger before needed your help.

Rutherford County Emergency Food Bank

STORY: One of the people helped by the Food Bank said the following: "I am eating a bowl of chicken noodle soup that I got from the wonderful people at the Rutherford County Emergency Food bank. The soup, along with other canned good, fruits, and cereal, means I do not go to bed hungry. I thank all of you associated with gathering and getting this food to those of us dire need of nourishment. I do not go to the Food Bank until I have exhausted all my other venues of getting groceries. Thank you all again and God Bless everyone associated with the Food Bank."

IMPACT: With the help of the United Way and others, the RCFEFB provides food to about 12000 needy individuals, many of them children.

The Salvation Army

STORY: It was late summer and hot. A very pregnant eighteen year old girl with a three year old daughter entered The Salvation Army shelter in desperate need of a place to stay. Though we had been crowded during the summer, we had one family room available for her. Immediately, she began to work the program the way it was intended to be worked. She met with the caseworker, set goals for her family, and began using the resources given to obtain housing. Through her weekly progress report meetings with the caseworker she found an ear to listen and a heart to encourage her. Within ten weeks, the

young lady was ready to move into her own apartment. As she left, we supplied her with dishes, some small furniture pieces, and a food basket to get her started in her new place. On her way out, she gave a card to the officers that read, "If it wasn't for The Salvation Army I wouldn't have had anywhere to go. Thank you for being there when I needed you." The young lady had since had her baby boy and keeps in touch frequently. She attends the worship services on Sunday and the women's outreach group on Thursdays. With our encouragement, she has taken the next step to self-sufficiency and enrolled in college classes. This young lady is just one of the many success stories that walk out of our doors every year.

IMPACT: From July 2009- December 2009, The Salvation Army has served 305 cases and 352 individuals (men, women, and children) in an emergency housing situation. Of those cases served, 274 of those cases were single men and 31 were families. 13,662 meals were provided and almost 4,000 nights lodging were given.

Smyrna-Lavergne Food Bank

STORY: A family (husband, wife 2 children) came in for food for the first time. The husband just got laid off from work. Two weeks later his wife was laid off also. They applied immediately for food stamps, but would not receive them for 2 weeks. They called 211 and were referred to our agency for food. They let us know how grateful they were that the Smyrna-Lavergne Food Bank was available to help them during their financial crisis.

IMPACT: Contributions from the United Way enable the Smyrna-Lavergne Food Bank to supply families in need with fresh dairy products and also a 2# package of sugar and cornmeal.

CASA of Rutherford County

STORY: Shannon and Christy are sisters who were living with their birth mother. Shannon's father and his parents were eager to have a relationship with her but were discouraged from contact with her by the girls' mother. When it was discovered that Christy's father was sexually abusing Shannon, the girls were removed from their mother's care. This case was assigned to a CASA volunteer who discovered that Shannon had never been enrolled in school and was also in need of counseling to help cope with the sexual abuse. Because of the CASA volunteer's effort, Shannon now lives with her paternal grandparents and Christy lives with her maternal grandmother. Both girls visit regularly with each other.

IMPACT: In FY 2009, CASA was assigned to the cases of 181 Rutherford County children who needed a caring adult to speak up for them.

Child Advocacy Center of Rutherford County, Inc.

STORY:

Clients Story: Mary and her children

A single mother of five children began receiving services from the Child Advocacy Center in 2009. Mary's oldest child sexually abused her younger children and was placed in a treatment facility. Mary's girls received counseling from the Guidance Center and the child sexual abuse children's group and Mary received counseling from the non-offending parent's group. All of the children learned that the abuse was not their fault, they learned self protection skills, and they now know who to tell if someone tries to harm them again. The children's post traumatic stress symptoms have improved since coming to the Child Advocacy Center. They have improved their grades and the child with the most difficulties recently made straight A's on her report card. Mary had no support system before coming to the Center. She is in the medical field, works long hours, and has no family who live close to them. Mary has often said she would have never made it through this ordeal if she had not had the support from the Child Advocacy Center and the parents in the non-offending parents' group.

CAC Staff: Jennifer Gamble

It is amazing to watch a family heal. I care about what I do because it really matters. I can use my talents that were given to me to the best of my ability. Childhood is something that can be really great or really bad. I like to think that I help turn around childhoods for the better. Instead of a child having horrible memories of their abuse I tend to think many of the kids I serve will remember the Child Advocacy Center. They might not remember my name, their Department of Children's Services caseworker's name, their detective's name, their District Attorney's name, or where this building is but they know they were able to share their story and adults that were safe genuinely cared. I think the work the Child Advocacy Center team does can completely change a child's life for the better. That is why I have been here for seven years and I love this job!

IMPACT: Because of your support of the United Way, last year 967 abused children and 414 non-offending parents and family members were provided crisis intervention services and helped to heal from the trauma and victimization of child abuse.

Family & Children's Service, Inc.- Crisis Center Program

STORY: We received a call from a client that called himself Robert. The call came from a blocked cell phone and we were unable to trace the call. The client stated that he had never called the Crisis Center in the past. He stated that he was going to kill his wife of five years and himself in the next 24 hours. Robert reported thinking his wife is cheating on him, but had never specifically talked about it with her. He stated that he felt that no one cares about him and he has nothing to live for. Robert mentioned killing other people, but would not tell the Crisis Counselor who they were. He said he would do it at 3:00 pm after she got off work. He stated that he was not going to talk to her before the killing. Robert expressed a desire to kill her as soon as she came to the house and then kill himself. He said that he had 2 guns, a 9mm and a 380. He told the Crisis Counselor that the 380 was located under his bed. Robert also told the Crisis Counselor that he had two boxes of ammunition in the house. Robert disclosed that he lives in an apartment in Nashville. The conversation was monitored by supervisors at different times. Notes were passed back and forth regarding questions to be asked as a strategy for obtaining information. We were able to determine where his wife worked and her first name. We were also able to obtain information about what year he was born and that he had a previous criminal record. Robert would not give last names, telephone numbers or addresses. A Crisis Center supervisor made attempts to have the number traced and another supervisor was able to track down her job and confirm that this was indeed her husband using the information that was obtained from him. The callers' wife called her husbands cell phone while on the other line with the Crisis Center supervisor and the line that he was on in the Crisis Center with the counselor clicked and he hung up. At this time the caller's wife gave the Crisis Center supervisor her husbands' cell phone number and his real name. The caller's wife informed the Crisis Center supervisor that her husband was planning to pick her up for lunch at 11:00 am. The Crisis Counselor was able to call the cell phone number that was given by the caller's wife and it was the same caller that she was speaking to before. The Crisis Counselor explained that she must have lost him on the previous call and he accepted that. Robert told the Crisis Counselor that he was driving near the facility that his wife worked. During the second call the Crisis Counselor asked if he had a game plan and the caller responded that he was good. The Crisis Counselor also stated that she could hear him with the gun. The Crisis Counselor asked how he was going to sneak a gun into his wife's job and he said it is in a place where no one would see it. When asked what he would do if he couldn't find his wife he stated that other people would get hurt. The Callers' wife worked with her HR Dept. to make sure that security was present at the building and knew what her husband looked like. They also dispatched police to her residence to pick up her teenage daughter that was there alone. The Crisis Center dispatched the police once a physical description of the caller was obtained along with his cell phone number and make and model of the car he was driving. The caller did make it to his wife's job but was detained there by police. The caller had a BB gun, a disguise, prescription medication and rope in the car with him at that time.

IMPACT: The Crisis program provided service to 20,374 people in the past year. We returned to 24 hour 7 days a week operation officially in October and have already seen an increase in calls. We project to serve 25,000 people by the end of this year.

Domestic Violence Program Inc.

STORY: I am calling this client “Pipi”. Pipi is a thirty three year old female. She has a ten year old daughter, Elizabeth. Pipi received her Order of Protection for her and her daughter and stayed with us for a month and a half at the safe shelter before going into Transitional Housing. She attended Hair College and took her child to school every day. This client went into Transitional Housing and stayed there an additional month and a half until her abuser found out where the house was. She had to go back into the shelter for an additional thirty-one days. Pipi received gas vouchers, clothes and school supplies from DVP. She has now found permanent housing through the Guidance Center Path Program for chronically mentally ill. The Program she went through helped with the deposits. The update on her is she is still going to Hair College and will graduate in February.

IMPACT: Over 1300 families sought assistance from the Domestic Violence Program last year. Over six hundred victims filed Orders of Protection in our offices instead of standing at the counter in the clerks office. Children were fed lunch and victims were able to speak to a counselor as part of the legal process if they wished to. Our attorney represented over 584 petitioners at no charge to the victims. Because of his representation victims seldom have to take the stand and testify in court on their cases. Our agency mailed all of the “gun restriction notices” by certified mail, to defendants, at no cost to the county. One hundred single women and/or families sought safe shelter for up to six weeks. We were able to provide all of their food, toiletries, toys and diaper needs. This prevented these families from having to seek additional help through other local services providers. 11 families went on to use transitional housing for an additional six months. These families did not have to go into other overly crowded homeless shelters or use housing through our Housing Authority. Families in transitional housing learned more about community resources, began educational programs at Green House Ministries and Goodwill. Funds were available this year to assist 80 families with help on their utility bills, help with ROVER tickets and gas vouchers, and provide day care while victims were in court or improving their job skills and looking for employment. Forty-four volunteers and interns learned about domestic violence as they manned our crisis line, and assisted clients throughout the year.

Exchange Club Family Center, Inc.

STORY: Sam, a young father of three, was incarcerated in the Rutherford County Correction Work Center for a DUI and domestic assault. When he entered the Work Center he had no real relationship with his children. Upon completion of the Exchange Club Family Center’s parenting class and release from the Work Center, Sam stated that, as a result of the parenting class, he has become a positive role model for his children, takes an active role in their lives, and has begun in a two-year college program to continue on his path to self-improvement. Unlike so many others, Sam has remained un-incarcerated and even returned to the Work Center to speak to other incarcerated parents about the benefit of the class and how to rebuild their relationships with their children.

IMPACT: Because of the support of UWRCC, last year Exchange Club Family Center provided parenting classes to 96 incarcerated mothers and fathers and served a total of 1,076 Rutherford County parents in all of our parenting classes. There is an 80% recidivism rate for inmates at the Rutherford County Correctional Work Center but inmate parents who participate in our parenting program have an incredibly low 10% recidivism rate! The Positive Parenting class not only teaches parents how to have healthy, non-abusive relationships with their children, it helps stop the cycle of incarceration in their families and has greatly reduced the recidivism rate of participating parents. Further, this keeps children out of state custody and juvenile court. The total impact is this program makes our families stronger and our community safer.

Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands

STORY: *“Elizabeth”, a 33-year old mother of a young child, was physically abused by her husband. He beat, shoved, burned, scratched, and choked her on multiple occasions. He even threatened to kill her. Ms. Boone turned to the Legal Aid Society and the court system to protect herself and her child. With the*

Legal Aid Society's help, she became one of the first domestic violence victims to benefit from an Order of Protection under the new five year extended time period. When her husband violated the Order of Protection, the Legal Aid Society advocate successfully helped Ms. Boone through the process; her husband was arrested and convicted for the violation. Legal Aid Society also accompanied Ms. Boone to criminal court several times for prosecution of the still pending, underlying assault charge.

When Ms. Boone decided she needed to become legally independent from her abuser in order to be safe, a Legal Aid Society attorney helped her to obtain a divorce. In addition to the legal independence, Ms. Boone has made steps to become financially and emotionally independent. She works full-time, earning a modest living to support herself and her child. Her ex-husband has never paid the court ordered child support. With encouragement from the Legal Aid Society advocate, Ms. Boone and her child began counseling to help heal from the trauma caused by the repeated violence. The combination of legal support and counseling has helped give them safety, peace and hope.

IMPACT: *During 2008, the Legal Aid Society assisted clients in over 8,000 cases, about 360 of which were handled by the Murfreesboro Office. Of those resolved by the end of the year, 97% had a successful outcome for the client. The Murfreesboro Office presented or participated in 5 educational presentations/walk-in clinics on legal assistance for civil matters. The cost to serve each client has increased by about 9 % since 2008 and the need for service has almost doubled. Although the Legal Aid Society has continued to find ways to increase service to low-income families and the elderly who are experiencing multiple legal issues related to the current housing and economic conditions, we are only able to meet 1 out of every 4 requests for assistance.*

Rutherford County Adult Activity Center, Inc.

STORY: James is a 52 year old man with mental retardation, hearing and speech impediments. He dropped out of school in the fifth grade because he couldn't keep up with his school work and because his classmates made fun of him. He remained at home for over 20 years, moving in with his brother and sister-in-law when his parents died. At around age 32 he started at the Activity Center, working first in our sheltered workshop. After learning a variety of work skills and gaining in confidence, he joined our Supported Employment program. We found him a job at a local health care facility and provided on-the-job training free of charge to his employer. He has held this job for 20 years, supports himself, pays taxes and is making monthly payments on a house trailer.

IMPACT: Because of your help, 115 Rutherford and Cannon County citizens with mental retardation get the support they need to live in their home communities, manage their often complicated health conditions, hold down jobs or work in our sheltered workshop, pay taxes, live in regular neighborhoods in their own homes and volunteer with such worthwhile organizations as Meals On Wheels, the Lions Club, the Food Bank and Rutherford County's recycling program.

Domestic Violence Program Inc.- Sexual Assault Services Program

STORY: Adreana came to the domestic violence program for assistance with court advocacy, counseling and safe shelter. She is confined to a wheel chair following a car accident as a teenager. Adreana was sexually abused by a student classmate after her accident but finished high school and college, She married ten years ago and has two children. Since marrying Edward she has been physically abused, and raped by him. The current abuse has turned from physical abuse to her, to abuse, threats and harassment of the entire family. He has threatened to kill their son, and has whipped the daughter with an electric cord. She is receiving services from several agencies and DCS has intervened on behalf of the children however they too had made threats to remove the children since she can not adequately protect them from their father. Threats of this kind kept Adreana from reporting her abuse for years. The father has now been removed from the home through an order of protection and the family are now residing there. Adreana qualified for assistance from Legal Aid and is now divorced.

IMPACT: Last year we were able to help 92 sexual assault victims with crisis counseling, therapy, criminal justice support and advocacy. Out of the 92 clients, 40 were met on the scene, in the emergency departments of our local hospitals. These clients were able to make a step forwards towards healing, assist in the prosecution of their assailant and begin to overcome their victimization.

Cannon County 4-H Clubs

STORY: After coming to Woodbury to reside with relatives after the departure of his mother and incarceration of his father, a young man became involved with the Cannon County 4-H Clubs. Due to fundraising efforts, this young man was able to make new friends, develop leadership, citizenship, and communication skills as a result of participating in events such as leadership retreats, 4-H camping experiences, and State 4-H Congress. Today, the young man resides in Washington D. C. where he works as a child development specialist for a lobbying firm.

IMPACT: With your help, during 2009, 47 4-Hers found a safe haven, provided healthy nutritious meals, and developed citizenship, leadership, responsibility, and had the benefit of positive adult role models as a result of participating in 4-H Camp.

72 4-Hers developed leadership skills as a result of participating in “Youth Leadership Cannon” and subsequent leadership retreat.

67 4-Hers learned communication skills and ethical decision-making skills as a result of participating in on 4-H judging teams.

42 Senior High 4-H members developed leadership skills and learned citizenship and communication skills as a result of participating in leadership development retreats such as State 4-H Congress, 4-H Roundup and Central Region 4-H All-Star Leadership Weekend Retreats.

1,030 4-Hers learned more about ethical decision making, communication skills, energy conservation and alternative energy, financial responsibility, and career education as a result of six educational programs delivered to all 4th through 8th grade classrooms in the county.

Cannon County Senior Citizens Center- Senior Center & HELP Program

STORY: The Cannon County Senior Center is currently serving 54 homebound clients with HELP Program services. Recently one of our HELP Volunteers suffered a major illness and requested HELP program services. He knew what the program was all about because of the services he provided to his three clients. He had always heard his clients say “thank you, I’m so glad you came to see me, or you’re a god send”. So when he got his very own HELP volunteer (which also takes care of his past clients) he knew first hand how important this program is to our homebound. He stated “It meant so much to see my HELP volunteer come to my home in my time of need and I will never forget how quick something can happen to all of us”. He hopes that when he recovers he will be able to return to volunteering because this program changes people lives

IMPACT: Without the support of UWRCCC the 801 people served at the Cannon County Senior Center in 2008-2009 would have not received 38,436 units of service to keep them healthy and active.

Cannon County REACH Afterschool Programs

STORY: REACH has helped 20% more children than last year. Funding decreased but services increased.

IMPACT: The funding at REACH has decreased but donations of items has increased and more students are helped and more parents received food boxed, clothes, etc.

American Red Cross – Heart of Tennessee Chapter

IMPACT: Because of your support through UWRCC the Rec Cross was able to train 5,773 people in our community to learn to save life. Red Cross has also taught 1,398 people to swim and trained 177 youth to become responsible babysitters.

NEED: Did you know that nearly 300,000 people die each year due to sudden cardiac arrest? If just one person in every household knew how to perform CPR just think how many more of those lives could be saved.

Mid-Cumberland Human Resource Agency- Homemaker Program

STORY: The Homemaker Program provides services to an elderly female client whose husband passed away several years ago. She has two children but neither visit regularly. When services began the client was extremely frail and unable to take care of her day-to-day needs. She was not able to drive, had not seen a Doctor in years, and was surviving off her monthly supply of frozen meals. While she qualified for nursing home placement she did not want to leave the home she and her husband had spent their lives in. The client now receives a weekly visit from her Homemaker who completes general housekeeping tasks, transports the client to the Doctor, and runs errands to complete grocery shopping and pick up prescriptions. In addition, the Homemaker prepares meals for the client and provides the emotional support and companionship that had been missing. After a year of services the client's health and quality of life has improved greatly but most importantly she was able to maintain her long-earned and well-deserved independence and is now happy to be finishing her life at home.

IMPACT: Because of your support through United Way, the Homemaker Program was able to provide services to 166 residents in Rutherford County last year with 93% of them attaining their goal of remaining independent. Elderly individuals were able to remain in their homes with limited assistance rather than entering a nursing home and children were able to avoid foster care placement and remain safely with their families.

Nurses for Newborns of Tennessee

STORY: Nurses for Newborns started visiting a high-risk mother when she was 9 weeks pregnant. This was her third pregnancy, and she had lost her first two infants due to extreme prematurity. The mother required medication to resolve her almost constant nausea, and was ordered on bed rest beginning in the first trimester, and would be there for the duration of her pregnancy. Our agency nurse was able to visit the mother throughout her pregnancy to assess her condition. The mother had a healthy deliver at 34 weeks, with the infant weighing a 5 pounds, 15 ounces. The birthmother was overwhelmed with joy to be discharged from the hospital with her first healthy baby in her arms.

IMPACT: The 523 home visits nurses completed during FY 2009 benefited 72 total families in Rutherford County. Nurses complete home safety inspections with client families to ensure their home living environment is safe (baby-proofed), and parents receive supporting instruction on the dangers in "co-sleeping" (when a child is placed in the same bed with an adult or sibling, the primary cause of preventable infant deaths in Tennessee). Nurses ensure caregivers are providing a safe place for their child to sleep, and provide supporting information referral based on the specific needs of our client family.

In September 2009, *Nurses for Newborns* won the "Making A Difference" award at the annual *Salute to Excellence* awards ceremony, hosted by the Center for Non-profit Management. This was the first year we received a nomination for this award.

Mid-Cumberland Human Resource Agency- Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

STORY: Our Ombudsman Program was involved in a complaint against a nursing home which failed to provide oral care to an 87 year old resident that they initially assessed as not having partial dentures. One year after admission, the resident complained of mouth pain; a private dentist discovered that the resident *did have partial dentures that had not been removed or cleaned in over one year since her admission to the facility.* As a result, the resident had severe gum damage and tooth decay which resulted in dental treatment that was *estimated to cost the resident \$6,000.* Following investigation by our Ombudsman, the facility received a deficiency by the governing regulatory agency and put into place an improved, more efficient quality assurance plan which included oral hygiene care.

IMPACT: “It is all about the resident’s rights!” Because of UWRCC last year, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program served 1,447 long term care residents through facility visitations. In addition, 36 individuals received advocacy services in the form of complaint investigation/resolution, and information and referrals.

St. Clair Street Senior Center

STORY: A female in her 70’s, living alone, and low income came to the nurse’s office for foot care. The nurse noticed that her leg was swollen. When the nurse asked her about the swelling, she stated that is had been gradual. The lady’s blood pressure was elevated. Because of the amount of edema, the nurse called her doctor (with the client’s permission). The doctor had her come in for an evaluation that day. Since her next appointment had been for three months, he changed her blood pressure medicines and was diagnosed with lymphedema.

IMPACT: Client’s hypertension was treated early and the lymphedema was seen at an early stage. Although lymphedema is not curable, it can be managed with compression dressings.

Tennessee Poison Center

STORY: Mom called Tennessee Poison Center about her 4 year old child. The child took her own antibiotic from the fridge, Amoxicillin suspension, and ingested all the remaining medication. Child had been on this for an ear infection and had already taken this medication for the last 6 days, and 4 days supply was remaining in the bottle. Mom was frantic that the child had emptied the bottle.

The poison specialist who answered the phone reassured the Mom and explained that antibiotics are well tolerated by children even in large amounts. Once the Mom was calm, they discussed the amount that may have been left after 6 days of dosing and obtained child’s weight. With this information, the amount ingested per child’s body weight was calculated, and it was determined that the amount was less than the amount when potential effects may be expected. The Mom was advised to give her child lots of clear fluids for next 24 hours. No toxicity symptoms were expected, other than mild stomach upset. By calling Tennessee Poison Center, this family avoided an unnecessary visit to a physician’s office or emergency room.

IMPACT: 4,835 Rutherford and Cannon County residents received help from the Poison Help hotline last year. 75% of these calls were safely managed at home, avoiding costly visits to hospital emergency rooms and physicians’ offices. For every \$1 that is spent on a call to the Poison Help hotline, \$7 is saved in other medical care spending. Not only does Tennessee Poison Center save lives, it saves valuable healthcare dollars.

Holloway Harbor Child Care Center

STORY: Holloway Harbor Child Care Center has helped many teenagers finish their high school education. One of our students transferred to Holloway in her junior year of high school with a daughter two months old. She was enrolled in our program for 2 years. She graduated with a cluster in Early Childhood Education Careers. She continued her education by earning a LPN degree at Draughton's Junior College. She is now working as a dental hygienist and is continuing her education to become a RN. She still visits our center because we had such a positive influence on her life.

IMPACT:

Because of your support through United Way we are able to help:

15 preschoolers by providing child care

23 student parents to graduate high school

Provide on the job training for 57 students

Provides opportunities for leadership and community service for 9 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) affiliated members.

Kids on the Block

STORY: After a presentation of our Prejudice Prevention program at Smyrna Elementary, a 5th grade teacher approached our puppeteers. She had seen this program the year before and had a story to share. A week after the Kids On The Block performed in 2008, a new student joined the 5th grade at Smyrna Elementary. He had burns all over his face and seemed very different from the other children. This teacher was able to have an open discussion with her class based on the principals and concepts they learned from the Prejudice Prevention program. She realized how deeply this program had affected her students when they all embraced the new boy rather than exclude him. The teacher told our staff that this young man ended up becoming one of the most liked students in the grade. "Your message really sinks in for these kids," she said.

IMPACT: Kids On The Block was able to perform 80 presentations reaching over 7,000 students in Rutherford County last year. The programs we performed were: Sticks & Stones (9), Problem Solving (14), Awareness of Differences (18), Growing Up Healthy (4), Child Abuse Prevention (17), Bullying Prevention (8), Prejudice Prevention (7), AIDS/HIV Awareness (1), and Substance Abuse & Teen Pregnancy Prevention (2). After performing one of our Child Abuse Prevention programs, one student was able to find the courage needed to disclose being abused. This student was immediately provided the support and healing needed.

Murfreesboro City Schools Indigent Children's Fund

STORY: Two Bradley families told the counselor that their children would have to be staying home, as they did not have warm clothes to wear to school. Children from these families had been wearing shorts or skirts that were purchased during the summer months. Both families said they could not afford clothes on top of their monthly budget expenses. These children are missing out on valuable learning time in the classroom and educational opportunities benefiting their classmates.

IMPACT: Thanks to the support of the UWRCC, the Indigent Children's Fund was able to ensure that 347 students were in class every day, dressed appropriately for the climate, comfortable, and ready to learn.

Rutherford County Primary Care Clinic- Primary Care & Hope Clinic

STORY: David presented to our clinic in 2007. After his initial visit, a staff provider ordered laboratory testing and his liver enzymes presented abnormally. He did state that these findings were not new. However, his symptoms of abdominal pain persisted and with the abnormal enzymes a CT of the abdomen was needed. His CT showed hepatic cirrhosis. David did not have a history of alcohol abuse. A 2.2x1.4cm area was found on liver as well. An MRI of the abdomen was ordered and it revealed a pancreatic mass. In the fall of 2008 David received a liver transplant and is living a healthy and happy life.

IMPACT: PCHC has provided over \$1million dollars in uninsured services during the last year. Over 75% of the Clinic's patients are without insurance and routinely pay only 10-20% of their true cost.

Project Help

STORY: Evie was born with spina bifida. She had surgery at birth to repair her vertebrae opening. When Evie was 15 months old she began receiving special instruction at Project Help. At 22 months Evie walked with a tiny walker and at 24 months she pushed the walker aside in order to scurry down the hallway. In April 2010, Evie will turn three; the experts in the family's research study at Vanderbilt are consistently amazed by Evie's progress. She can walk and run as well as maintain her balance and gait. She does tend to become exasperated with her teachers on occasion: she recently insisted that she needed sunglasses, keys and a check card so she could leave and go to the store.

IMPACT: Project Help continues to provide an expanded array of learning experiences to an expanded number of young children with delays or disabilities. In 2007, Project Help assisted 43 families for the year. In 2009, Project Help worked with an average of at least 45 children each month. Families consistently maintain that their greatest priority is keeping their children in the Project Help program beyond the age of three.

Rutherford County Schools' Charity Fund

STORY: Because a high school-aged brother and sister living in a rural area of Rutherford County began to exhibit poor attendance and declining grades, an attendance teacher and the school counselor made a home visit to assess the situation and offer solutions. They found those two students living in a one bedroom, unairconditioned, cramped trailer approximately one mile off a main road. Their mother, is fully disabled with rheumatoid arthritis. This family cooks and heats with a wood-burning stove, has no telephone, and had no working vehicle at the time. Through the collaborative efforts of these two school system employees, a local church, two English classes, other school personnel, and the Rutherford County Schools' Charity Fund, clothing was purchased, the vehicle was repaired, food and household items were donated, and the family enjoyed a wonderful Christmas dinner and gifts. This agency played a major role; not only were items of clothing provided, but this was the first time these children had ever shopped for and received new clothing. Who would have ever thought that a home visit and a trip to Target would have made such a difference in their lives? Their attendance has improved, their grades are good, they come to school with pride and "fit in," and they have developed a special bond with the school counselor.

IMPACT: Because of your support through UWRCC last year, 344 indigent students (grade pre-k-12) received 5,170 items of clothing, including shirts/tops; pants/jeans, skirts, or dresses; underwear; shoes; jackets/coats; and miscellaneous items, such as belts, gloves, and hats. As a result, these students were able to attend school regularly and appropriately attired, thereby creating positive attitudes and enhancing self-esteem. Of course, there were multiple added bonuses: (1) students were afforded an opportunity to

select new clothing that suited their personalities and individual styles; (2) families enjoyed the positive social experience of shopping, modeling their selections, and leaving the store with bags in their arms and smiles on their faces; and (3) parents and students established rapport with Central Office Attendance Department personnel who provided a long-term link to a “friendly face” at the Central Office and who may be called upon to assist with other needed services within the school system and the community.

The Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center

STORY: Our son, John could not even sit at a table for more than a few minutes or even say what he wanted to eat or drink.

Our lives turned around when we became involved in an intensive early intervention program at the Bill Wilkerson Center. When he began the program, at age 5, he had little ability to communicate. He showed little interest in any toys except trains. Today, at age 7, he is completing first grade at a local public school. His math and reading skills are above grade level. He likes to make kids in his class laugh with his imitation of Sponge Bob. There is a long road ahead, but the most important thing we have been given by the program is the knowledge of how to work with him and continue his progress."

IMPACT: Because of support through UWRC last year, 300 different children from Rutherford and Cannon Counties received treatment at the Bill Wilkerson Center. These children were diagnosed and treated and progressed into being happy children with joyful expressions and were able to communicate with their parents and siblings and friends.

Wee Care Day Care Center

STORY: Wee Care Day Care Center tries to ensure that every child has his or her own personal pad or cot with the use of a towel or blanket. We have provided emergency placement for families who did not have any other placement, per the Childcare Certificate Program. Plus, we order educational material for all children according to the development growth chart, but we are keenly aware of the individual developmental age and growth.

IMPACT: Because of the United Way of Rutherford County community, Wee Care Day Care Center has been able to hire an additional childcare giver and increase our enrollment from the waiting list for our infant program and for our 3, 4 & 5 years. Children and parents have been able to choose books appropriate to the age level and continue their reading program at home as well as returning and checking out new books of their child's choice. Our children who are turning 5 years of age are preparing their next steps for kindergarten.