

Umpqua Community Action Network
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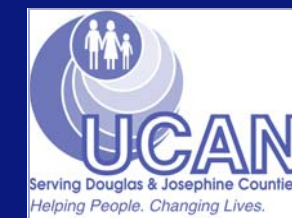
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Hope
Help
& Change



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

WINTER EDITION 2008

OUR MISSION:

**CREATING
SOLUTIONS TO
POVERTY,
IMPROVING LIVES
IN OUR
COMMUNITY**

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- **Notes from our Executive Director**
- **Holiday Appeal**
- **Wish List For Those in Need**
- **Emergency Housing Assistance**
- **New Affordable Housing in Sutherlin**
- **Capital Campaign Benefactors**
- **"Green Light"**

Active Relationship Team (ART) - Building on our success

With so many in need, the staff, volunteers and members of the board of directors will be tackling active donor cultivation in the first part of 2009. The support that UCAN receives from grants and federal monies is just not enough to assist everyone in need. Additional resources must be cultivated in order for the agency to keep providing for those on the verge of losing their homes, have an empty plate or who have already had their heat turned off. Sometimes the choice for those we serve comes down

to putting food on the table or paying a light bill. That tough choice is hopefully one that most of us will never have to make. But the reality is that UCAN's clients face decisions like that every month.

Active Relationship Team members will volunteer their time to make personal visits to current friends of UCAN.

The visits are designed to be as much about building relationships as they are to build a pool of funds that will benefit those in need.

Proceeds from these cultivation opportunities will support all of UCAN's programs and will serve to strengthen the base of support that UCAN needs in order to keep serving those among us that are struggling.



**The more unrestricted dollars we have,
the more good we can do.**

A Place to Call Home

In December, UCAN will open our newest affordable housing complex in Sutherlin. Madison Place is named for Mike Madison, who was dedicated

to serving those with barriers to finding and keeping permanent, affordable housing. In his work with the Probation and Parole Office,

accessible and will truly fill a need in the Sutherlin area. As in most of Douglas County, the need for affordable housing far out - measures the availability.



Mike exemplified UCAN's mission to provide safe, affordable housing to those in need.

The new housing units will be handicap-

UCAN believes that everyone deserves access to clean, affordable housing and your donation dollars are used to make that a reality.

Open Up and Give



Don't forget about energy assistance! UCAN provides 1/2 cord of wood at least once and often twice to those that need it during the heating season. In 2007 - 08, we served approximately 214 individuals and families. This winter is expected

to be very cold according to the almanac, and we expect to have more people in need, but we also have more wood this year to offer. To volunteer at the transfer site or to donate wood, contact the UCAN office in Roseburg.

Won't you help us. We understand that you need to stretch your dollars as far as they will go, and we appreciate and respect each and every gift given to UCAN in order to serve those in need this winter.

Use the enclosed envelope to make your tax-deductable donation this holiday season. Your gift benefits your local neighbors, keeping them warm, safe and fed here in Douglas and Josephine counties.



Umpqua Community Action Network received a variety of funding to construct Esperanza Circle, six units for homeless persons and people recovering from drug and alcohol addictions.

Looking for a Gift that has Meaning?

Make a donation to UCAN in honor of a loved one or friend and you will receive a personalized card to give to your recipient and a thank you letter to acknowledge your donation for tax purposes.

Words from the Executive Director



Mike Fieldman
Executive Director
UCAN

By now I hope that many of you have had an opportunity to visit us in our new facilities on Kenneth Ford Drive.

As long-time friends of UCAN, you know that the quality of service that we provide has never reflected where we "live".

Even though we find ourselves living on a new street in a new neighborhood, we still adhere to our traditional, time-tested Mission:

Creating solutions to poverty, improving lives in our community.

For almost 40 years we've provided exceptional service to those in need without a fancy outward appearance.

The same is true for our clients; outside appearances rarely reflect the quality of the individual. Many hardworking Americans live in poverty not for the lack of trying to provide for their families.

Many work two or three jobs and still have a hard time providing the most basic of needs; food, clothing and shelter. That is what we're working to change.

That's why your support means so much; not so we can "live" in a nicer place, but so that we can help those in need "live" with more security and dignity here in Douglas and Josephine counties.

The Changing Face of Emergency Housing Assistance

In October and again in November close to 100 people stood in line outside the UCAN office in Grants Pass hoping to receive Short Term Emergency Housing Assistance. Unfortunately, UCAN has limited funding and can currently only serve a small portion of those in need each month. The result is that a large number of those in line face the prospect of losing their housing or trying to hang on until they can get in line again, next month.

These past two months, the line in Grants Pass has included families, working people, seniors and the disabled. It is truly a



The young face of poverty

snapshot of those in need in of assistance from all economic levels, ages and incomes.

Because funding is so limited for this program only the first forty completed applications are accepted and an additional forty will be accepted each month as long as the funding lasts. Meaning that many of those that stand in line the first working

day of each month are turned away due to lack of funds.

"As times get tougher, we expect to see this sort of thing more and more" commented Dancer Davis, UCAN Case Management Supervisor.

Turning people away is the hardest thing. Staff had been accepting over 125 applications a month knowing that they were, in essence, handing out false hope to those in need, due to the limited resources available. Currently the staff accepts just 40 applications per month from those who are struggling to maintain their housing in these tough economic times.

"Turning people away is the hardest part."



Mike Fieldman recognizes Capital Campaign Sponsors at the Open House

Completion of the UCAN facilities in

Roseburg took years of planning and capital fund raising.

UCAN would like to thank everyone that contributed to our success.

Movers and Shakers

Benefactors

- | | |
|---|---|
| <i>Ben B. Cheney Foundation</i> | <i>The Ford Family Foundation</i> |
| <i>Betty Lou Roberts Fund</i> | <i>The JELD-WEN Foundation</i> |
| <i>Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation</i> | <i>Jim & Jane Ratzlaff</i> |
| <i>C. Giles Hunt</i> | <i>Meyer Memorial Trust</i> |
| <i>The Collins Foundation</i> | <i>M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust</i> |
| <i>Community Development Block Grant</i> | <i>Oregon Community Foundation</i> |
| <i>Coos Curry Douglas Regional Investment Board</i> | <i>OR Economic & Community Development Dept</i> |
| <i>Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation</i> | <i>The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation</i> |
| <i>Crane Creek Foundation</i> | <i>USDA Rural Development Community Programs</i> |
| <i>Douglas County</i> | <i>Whipple Foundation Fund</i> |

Wish List



A small gift can go a long way. Currently UCAN is requesting donations that will be distributed to homeless men, women and families in Douglas and Josephine counties during our annual homeless count in January 2009. Donated items can be dropped off at either UCAN office in Roseburg or Grants Pass.

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| Heavy socks | Tarps |
| Gloves | Tents |
| Hats | Blankets |
| Sleeping bags | Dog food |



Our new Service Center

52,312 of your neighbors were helped by UCAN in Douglas and Josephine counties during 2007 - 2008.

Won't you help us ensure that everyone that needs assistance in 2009 receives our help by making a donation today.

Green Light

UCAN announces a great new partnership with Home Depot in Roseburg to recycle compact fluorescent lamps (CFL's). After years of having nowhere locally to safely dispose of compact fluorescent lamps, Home Depot has announced they will take your burnt up/used CFL's and properly recycle them here at the Roseburg store. And better yet...it's free! CFLs have trace amounts of mercury in them (3-5 mg) that really



shouldn't be dumped in the landfill.

As an agency, we've been advocating to all local retailers who sell these energy-efficient light bulbs to assist their customers in disposal, and Home Depot gets huge credit for stepping up and giving the

"GREEN LIGHT" to making the recycling process happen at their store.

Home Depot is excited to be involved with the program and hopes that the word will get out before too many bulbs are sent to the trash. Fortunately, the bulbs are designed to last substantially longer than regular bulbs, so spreading the word now will benefit all of us in the future.