

United Way of Southern Chautauqua County

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Pacesetters Kick Off 2010 United Way Campaign

The 2010 United Way Campaign got underway Wednesday, with the employees of twenty two local businesses and organizations starting early as Pacesetters. Campaign Chairman Tom Schmidt welcomed the group during a kickoff event at the Chautauqua Adult Day Care. The event was sponsored by Jamestown Savings Bank.

The Pacesetter companies and their employees are working to raise \$127,000 for United Way this year, or about 10% of the total campaign goal of \$1,275,000. The overall campaign goal is lower this year than the total raised last year, due to reductions expected in some corporate and individual gifts.

Mr. Schmidt said, "Our Board of Directors looked hard at the economic climate in our community and at the realities of the cuts we face this year. As a result, we set the goal a bit lower. Despite that, our intention is to raise as much money in the community as possible in order to fund the programs that are so important to children, families and adults who live here."

Pacesetter Co-Chairs Pat Kinney and Joanne Nelson added, "We will do all we can to get the Pacesetter Campaign moving in the right direction. The work these organizations do this summer will go a long way towards making the general campaign a success this fall."

Mr. Schmidt added, "United Way programs are a very important part of the fabric of our community. They improve the quality of education, income, and health for people of all ages – providing much-needed services that include daycare for children and seniors, food for the elderly, mentoring for teens, counseling, safety training, substance abuse education, and much more. United Way agencies are very responsible with their budgets. We would hate to see them have to reduce programs even further."

"This beautiful community that is our home is stronger and healthier because of United Way programs and services," he added. "We all need to support these programs with our contributions this year. This is part of how we LIVE UNITED."

Ms. Kinney and Ms. Nelson added, "We will stay in touch with these Pacesetters over the next several weeks to help them stay on track. This group has a great deal of enthusiasm and we look forward to working with them."

2010 United Way Pacesetters are:

- Alliance Advisory Group
- American Red Cross
- Chautauqua Adult Day Care Centers, Inc.
- Chautauqua Blind Association

Chautauqua Eye Care
Chautauqua Patrons Insurance Company
Community Bank NA
Court Appointed Special Advocates of of Chautauqua County, Inc.
Glatz Agency
Habiterra
Jamestown Board of Public Utilities employees, including
 IBEW 459, IBEW 106, and Teamsters 264
Jamestown Savings Bank
Joint Neighborhood Project
Merrill Lynch
Ring Precision Components
Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union
Spectrum Eyecare
UBS Financial Services
United Way
Wegmans
Weinberg Financial Group
Woodlawn Auto Workers Federal Credit Union

For more information about United Way or the 2010 Campaign, call United Way at 483-1561 or visit United Way online at www.uwayscc.org.

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Photo Caption:

2010 Campaign Chairman Tom Schmidt speaks to the crowd at the United Way Pacesetter Kickoff.