



United Way Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

United Way is fortunate to have many committed volunteers who work hard throughout the year to make sure the campaign is a success. This would not be possible without each and every community volunteer. The theme of this year's volunteer appreciation lunch was "thank you for being an important piece of the United Way puzzle." We truly could not complete the puzzle without each volunteer. By giving of their time and talents, these volunteers ensure that United Way agencies and programs are able to continue to help those in the community who need it the most.

Outstanding Campaign Award:

Auburn Athletics

Steve Lautz, Karina Angleada, Janet Taylor, & Coach Clint Myers

(pictured above)

Volunteers in charge of employee campaigns know the time and work involved in having a successful campaign. These volunteers made sure their co-workers had the information and opportunity to give, and it made a tremendous difference in growing the Athletic Department campaign. They went above and beyond, hand delivering pledge cards with personal notes, giving campaign updates to co-workers and hosting drawings at staff meetings. Coach Clint Myers was our Honorary Chair and was a great advocate within the department and university as a whole. United Way is grateful to Auburn Athletics and these outstanding volunteers for being such an integral part of the 2016 campaign.

**Top Giver Award
East Alabama Medical Center**



This year the top giver award went to East Alabama Medical Center. We appreciate so much the impact that this organization has made in the health and welfare of our community. United Way agencies and programs have greatly benefited from the many years of support from EAMC.

**Frank M. deGraffenried, IV
Outstanding Volunteer Service Award**



This year the Board of Directors approved a new recognition award. This award is viewed as our highest overall award. It is considered a "life time achievement" award. It will not be presented every year, but when it is awarded, it will be for outstanding merit. This year United Way is naming this award in honor of its first recipient: Frank M. "Buddy" deGraffenried, IV.

Agency Spotlight



Lee County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Twin Cedars provides trained and supervised volunteers to advocate for the best interests of children in dependency proceedings resulting in a safe and permanent home where children can not only survive, but thrive. Lee County CASA wants to ensure these children do not get lost in the social service system or become placed in inappropriate foster or group homes. To become an active CASA community volunteer there are basic requirements:

- Be screened and trained regarding child abuse and neglect, child development and juvenile proceedings
- Meet all the requirements of an affiliate CASA program
- Be actively supervised by an affiliate CASA
- Be sworn in by a judge of the juvenile court/circuit in which you serve

In 2014, Lee County CASA supported 86 people with almost half being between the ages of 6 and 18. All of the clients supported by CASA are from Lee County. Based on the current census there is an increasing number of children in foster care or temporary foster care who would benefit from a CASA volunteer. There are currently 112 clients being represented, but CASA would love to be able to provide volunteers for every child in foster care.

If you are interested in becoming a CASA volunteer or have any questions regarding Lee County CASA, please contact Pam Seidler at pseidler@twincedars.org or call 334-502-8600.



Help Me Grow Alabama connects children and families with the resources they need to ensure all children have the best possible start in life. Help Me Grow promotes the development of young children by linking families to information, providing effective care coordination, and facilitating partnership within the community to improve the accessibility and quality of services for families.

HELP ME GROW CORE COMPONENTS

✧ **Making the Connection**

Receive calls regarding a child's developmental concerns, assess needs & available resources, & refer families to services

✧ **Building the Network**

Develop relationships within the community & maintain an accurate list of local resources

✧ **Educating Providers**

Educate professionals about developmental surveillance & screening while promoting access to services

✧ **Identifying Gaps & Barriers**

Collect & analyze data to identify needs & effectively connect families to resources

Who Can Use Help Me Grow?

Anyone can call if they are:

- Wondering about a child's development, behavior or learning
- Needing support to access services
- Assisting a client, family member, or friend seek information about developmental services
- Requesting inclusion of an organization in developmental services database for referrals

Help Me Grow will:

- Listen to concerns and help decide which referrals are right for your family
- Find services that are appropriate and available for referrals
- Connect children to services
- Follow up to find out if a successful connection was made

Dial 2-1-1

Ask for Help Me Grow



United Way of Lee County, Inc.
www.UnitedWayofLeeCounty.com

Contact Us:

Address:
2133 Executive Park Drive
Opelika, AL 36801

Email:
unitedway@unitedwayofleecounty.com

Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:00pm

Website:
www.unitedwayofleecounty.com

