

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Way Hosts 8th Annual Day of Caring and First Responders Lunch

CHARLESTON - United Way of Central WV will host the 8th annual Day of Caring on Wednesday, September 11, 2013. Over 600 people from local businesses and organizations will volunteer their time at one of the 52 project sites located at non-profits in Kanawha, Putnam, and Boone Counties. The day will begin with a kick-off rally at the Charleston Civic Center from 10:00 a.m. – 11:15a.m. Immediately following, teams will work through the afternoon from 11:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on various community projects.

First Responder Appreciation Lunch

As part of Day of Caring this year, United Way will honor our community's first responders with an Appreciation Lunch from noon – 3:00 p.m. on the United Way lawn. This unique event offers our community the opportunity to express appreciation for the service that first responders provide. "It is important that we pause on a day such as this to honor those who put their lives on the line on a daily basis to protect our well-being. This is one small way we can express our appreciation of their service to our community," said United Way of Central WV President, John Ballengee.

Among the 52 project sites are:

- **First Responders Appreciation Lunch:** located at One United Way Square; volunteers will host a cookout for our community's first responders as a way of saying thank you for their hard work and dedication.
- **Bob Burdette Center:** located at Emanuel Baptist Church, 1401 West Washington Street; at 3:00 p.m., volunteers from Fifth Third Bank will teach their financial literacy program to kids.
- **Kroger Food Drive:** Located at 6 Kroger stores in Kanawha County (Delaware Avenue, Ashton Place, Kanawha City, South Charleston, St. Albans and Cross Lanes); University of Charleston students will collect food donations that will benefit United Way Partner Agencies.
- **John Henson Senior Center:** located at 2800 Putnam Avenue, Hurricane; volunteers at this site will paint the dining rooms and activity room.

For more information on Day of Caring, please contact John Ballengee at (304) 340-3503.

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About the United Way of Central West Virginia: *United Way is a volunteer-led, volunteer-driven organization representing Boone, Clay, Logan, Kanawha and Putnam counties. From the board of directors to fund-raising volunteers and the others who lend a hand each year, volunteer leaders ensure United Way continues to make an impact on the issues that matter most. United Way of Central West Virginia is dedicated to making sure children and youth achieve their potential through access to quality educational programs; promoting financial stability and independence; improving people's health. By encouraging all people in central West Virginia to give, advocate or volunteer, United Way wants to show the power of "living united". For more information, visit www.unitedwaycwv.org or call 304.340.3500.*