

DID YOU KNOW?

A Few Tid-Bits You Can Use in Your Campaign

- When a child is the victim of a crime, the [Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse](#) steps in to support the child and the family with in-home services and guidance.
- [Aldersgate Mission](#) teaches children about real-life business. The children learn how to create greeting cards and then sell the cards to earn money for their program.
- Girl Scouting in the School Day, a cooperative partnership between [Girl Scouts](#) of Gulf Pines Council and area schools, provides youth development activities for girls during the regular school day. The program is currently in operation in 51 schools, representing 49% of total scout membership. These girls might not otherwise be able to participate in scouting.
- Last year, [Christian Services](#) fed over 146,000 daily meals in its free “soup kitchen” and 65,862 meals through its Meals on Wheels program for home-bound senior citizens.
- In 2008, [Hattiesburg Area Habitat for Humanity](#) built its first-ever 48-hour blitz build in partnership with First Baptist Church of Hattiesburg. A new home for a family was built in the course of a weekend.
- [L.I.F.E. of South Mississippi](#) was able to provide services to over 200 disabled individuals last year to help them live independently in their own homes. Services include building proper wheelchair ramps or installing roll-in showers.
- An impressive 93 [Boy Scouts](#) in the Pine Burr Area Council earned the honorable rank of Eagle Scout last year. Six of those Eagle Scouts were from the Scoutreach division for underprivileged youth.
- The [South Central Mississippi chapter of American Red Cross](#) provides the emergency communication for our military. For example, your United Way dollars help pay for a family to contact their son in Iraq if an emergency situation occurs, such as a death in the family.
- [ARC](#) has over 100 special needs children participate in its Summer Adventures program, where they go bowling, go swimming and take field trips thanks to the help of many volunteers and United Way donations.
- 3,600 Kindergarten-12th grade students received alcohol, tobacco and drug prevention classes taught by [DREAM](#) last year.
- Over 400 children were mentored by a positive role model through [Big Brothers Big Sisters](#) last year, but sadly about 30 children are consistently on the waiting list for a mentor.
- [The Salvation Army](#) does much more than disaster relief and seasonal assistance. The Salvation Army is also a church. It has worship services every Sunday and Bible studies every Wednesday.

- Thanks to help from United Way funds, **The Family Y** does not turn anyone away because of inability to pay. Last year, over \$400,000 in financial assistance was provided.
- About 2,000 crisis calls were answered by the **Domestic Abuse Family Shelter** hotline last year.
- **R³SM** (Recover, Rebuild, Restore Southeast Mississippi) had 600 volunteers put in over 27,000 volunteer hours last year repairing and rebuilding homes for Hurricane Katrina victims in Forrest, Lamar and Perry counties.
- The **DuBard School for Language Disorders** helps children with severe hearing/communication disorders, so they may one day return to their local school districts. Last year, 20 students improved their communication skills enough to return to their local school districts. (That's 25% of the total full-time enrollment.)
- In Mississippi, 100,000 grandchildren are being raised by about 49,000 grandparents. The **Pinebelt Association for Families** is the only program in the area which provides services to relatives (mainly grandparents) raising grandchildren. Services include outreach, counseling, group activities, etc.
- If a homicide occurs in a person's home, the **Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention** will provide crime scene clean-up after the police investigation, so that family members will not have to deal with this emotional task. The Shafer Center also offers a support group for the survivors of homicide.
- **The Carpenter's Helper** allows elderly or disadvantaged people to remain in their own homes by improving their living conditions, such as making ceiling repairs or fixing fallen porches, etc. Last year 19 homes received repairs.
- **The Children's Center for Communication and Development** does not charge for any of its services. Infants and toddlers who may not be able to speak at all or sit or stand on their own learn through speech therapy and/or physical and occupational therapy.
- **South Mississippi Children's Center** operates Project Safe Place. Youth can go to several designated Safe Place locations across the community if they have run away or are in a crisis situation. They are then connected with the South Mississippi Children's Center. Last year, 13 children utilized the Safe Place program and were housed at the shelter.
- In 2008, 96 families received Christmas presents and household goods through the **American Red Cross's** Adopt-a-Fire-Family program
- Last year **United Way of Southeast Mississippi** provided funds to begin Friends for Financial Freedom. This program is a collaboration with several other agencies including The Salvation Army and Christian Services. The program provides basic financial classes and counseling for people who have a history of needing financial assistance to help them gain financial stability.