**2022 Annual Report (2023 Campaign Year)**

**Corporate Standing and Bonding for**the Heart of the Ozarks United Way is registered with the Office of the Secretary of State for the State of Missouri as a not-for-profit organization.  At the recommendation of the Board president, and the agreement of the Board of Directors, the Board purchased bonding insurance for the principal officers and the Executive Director. (Completed in August of each year.)

**Policy**Heart of the Ozarks United Way operates according to the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation adopted by previous boards.  Board members adhere to the Code of Ethics and are encouraged to sign a Conflict of Interest Policy. A Diversity Policy was also added as a new policy for the Board Members to review yearly. (Reviewed at the annual meeting in February.)

**Executive Committee**As a key strategy to helping ensure a successful year, an executive committee met as needed. Steve Vines was voted in as President. Sarah James was re-elected and voted in as Vice President. Ruth Whittington was elected and voted in as Treasurer. In January 2023, Steve Vines stepped down as president after his three-year board term ended. Stacy Tintocalis, Executive Director, also attended each meeting. An agenda was issued in advance of all meetings.  Minutes were kept of all executive committee meetings.

**Board of Directors**The Board of Directors meets quarterly in person in February, May, August, and November. An agenda is issued in advance of all meetings. Minutes were kept of all meetings.

In addition to the executive committee, the board consisted of Lenny Eagleman, Roger Strosnider, Tish Yates, and Haley Mitchell. The following new board members were voted in during 2022: Tonya Oaks and John Tollenaar.

**Financial Statements**The budget for the year is approved at the Annual Board meeting held February each year. The board treasurer reviews the financial records that are maintained by the executive director and the financial statements are reviewed and approval by the full board at each board meeting. A copy of each financial statement for the year is available upon request.

**Financial Review**Financial reviews will be conducted annually. At the annual meeting in February of 2019, the board decided to use the United Way Worldwide’s financial review process outlined in 2014 which states that United Ways with a budget of donations less than $500,000 may conduct financial reviews every 3 years in lieu of a full audit yearly. United Way has since changed its policy to annual financial reviews in lieu of audits. The financial review should be conducted by an accountant to maintain proper oversight and transparency. Previously, an independent audit was conducted by the accounting firm of Schultz, Wood & Rapp, and P. C.  The audit was presented to and approved by the Board of Directors. The full audit report is available upon request. (A two year audit was last completed for 2016/2017.)

**Agency Selection**At the Annual Meeting in February of 2019, the board decided to go to a two-year agency application process.

In 2022 the United Way received agency applications for the 2023-2024 campaign years. The possibility of United Way funding for qualified agencies is publicized in the media, Facebook, and through other means throughout Howell County.

All agencies funded in 2022 except Special Olympics, which did not reapply, will be funded in 2023 and 2024. The board will review its budget to determine allocations at its Annual Meeting in February 2023. (Website will be updated with current information. Annual Report and other information will be posted in the near future.)

Funded agencies include the following:

**Agape House**

**Boys and Girls Club (Thayer Branch)**

**37th Judicial CASA**

**Christos House**

**Mt. View Family Youth Center**

**Ozark Family YMCA**

**Single Parent Scholarship**

**Samaritan Outreach Center**

**Girl Scout Hut**

**Two new agencies, the Imagination Library of West Plains and Sadie Brown Cemetery, will also be funded for two years.**

**One-Year Mini-Grants were created to fund Chaos Closet and Birthday Blessings. Funding for these agencies will be taken from surplus funds from previous years.**

**The Campaign**In the Annual Meeting in February 2022, the board voted to maintain a year-round campaign and to support fundraising with a golf tournament. The United Way kicked off its campaign with its second annual charity golf tournament in August. The golf tournament raised $9,716.99 (cash basis) after expenses. In 2022, the United Way also continued its See’s Candy campaign and held fundraising events at local businesses, which raised a total of $1,425.00.

In October 2022, emails and mailings announcing our 2023 campaign were sent to campaign prospects. Stacy Tintocalis made personal contacts to prospective donors as well as making presentations to employees. Presentations were conducted at Community First Bank, Missouri State University, Simmons Bank in Willow Springs and Mountain View, Wood & Houston Bank, West Plains School District, and Ozark Action. The campaign is ongoing and will conclude at the end of September.

**2022 Low-Income Family Utility Deposit Program**

**At the end of December 2020, Heart of the Ozarks United Way was awarded a $2,000 grant from West Plains Community Foundation to pay for utility deposits for homeless families or families at-risk of homelessness. This program began in 2021 and continues to run with the assistance of Ozark Action. In 2022, $297.26 was spent on this program for two households. Due to the unavailability of housing, few households have used this program. This program will continue in 2023 until all funds are spent.**

**In August 2021, Stacy Tintocalis contacted the board of the West Plains Community Foundation to see if unspent funds could also be spent towards our overnight warming shelter program. The West Plains Community Foundation agreed to this request.**

**Overnight Warming Shelter Program**

**In 2022, Heart of the Ozarks United Way entered into a partnership with Ozark Action, the West Plains Police Department, Samaritan Outreach Homeless Shelter, Salutes Homeless Shelter, and First Baptist Church to collectively support the homeless population by creating overnight warming shelters during extremely cold weather conditions. Chief Monticelli of the police department is responsible for reviewing weather data and announcing a Tier 1 activation via emergency text message to all agencies involved. A Tier 1 activation means that Samaritan Outreach will open its doors after 4:30 pm for homeless individuals to spend the night. During a Tier 1 activation, the United Way will pay for motel rooms when individuals cannot be sheltered by Samaritan Outreach. When ten or more individuals require motel rooms, Tier 2 is activated and an overnight warming shelter is opened at First Baptist Church. Only one Tier 1 overnight warming shelter was activated in December 2022 and $79.38 was spent. This program will continue in 2023 until all funds are spent.**

**Furniture Program**

**In 2021 an anonymous donor donated $3,000 to the Heart of the Ozarks United Way to create a program to help formerly homeless individuals furnish their homes with essential home items, furniture, and mattresses. Home furnishings for this program are purchased at the Ozarks Healthcare Thrift Store with a 20% discount. Cleaning supplies are purchased at Wal-Mart. Individuals eligible for this program are vetted by Ozark Action and Turning Leaf. This program launched in August 2021. In 2022, this program helped 25 households furnish their homes. A total of $2,505.99 was spent, which depleted funds. The board approved an additional $500 in funding at its annual meeting in February, 2023.**

**Emergency Funds Program**

**In 2021, surplus funds permitted the Heart of the Ozarks United Way to informally launch an Emergency Funds Program for individuals vetted by Ozark Action or Samaritan Outreach. Funds were limited to less than $100 per person for small emergencies such as gas cards or a new driver’s license. The executive committee approved all funds spent. From January 2022 to February 14, 2022, a total of $167.08 was spent on two households.**

**At the February annual meeting, the board approved $316.00 for a Community Emergency Fund that would consist of gas cards and emergencies approved by the executive committee. After February 15, 2022, a total of $352 was spent on eleven households.**

**Imagination Library of West Plains Program
The United Way acquired the Imagination Library of West Plains program in 2022, a program formerly run by the children’s librarian at the West Plains Library. This program requires roughly $500 a month to run. Books are $2 per child, and anywhere from 220 to 250 children are enrolled in the program. In order to support this program, the United Way created a separate Imagination Library bank account at West Plains Bank. In 2022 the United Way raised a total of $8,450.35 in grants, donations, and fundraising events for Imagination Library of West Plains.**

**Sadie Brown Cemetery Partnership
In 2022 the Heart of the Ozarks United Way entered into a partnership with the Sadie Brown Cemetery to assist with its restoration by writing grants. The United Way received its first grant of $22,000 from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks to pay for landscaping, benches, and 100 grave markers. Payment for these items will continue throughout 2023.**

**The Conclusion**As planned, the campaign will be ongoing until September of 2023 with a total of $45,250 pledged thus far with nine months to go. Funds approved by the Board of Directors will be disbursed in quarterly installments during 2023.

Contractual Agreements were developed with recipient agencies and fully executed by authorized officers of the agencies and Heart of the Ozarks United Way. An example of the contractual agreement is available upon request. The Heart of the Ozarks United Way also maintained updates on FACEBOOK and the Heart of the Ozarks United Way website throughout 2022. Donors and individuals in the community are encouraged to like the page and review updates.