

## United Way of the Ouachitas

GIVE, ADVOCATE, VOLUNTEER.

LIVE UNITED



Community Connections October 2017



United Way intern, Brenda Bynum, and volunteers, John Lucas and Debbie White sort through and organize through donations for Hurricane Harvey

## United Way Organizes Hurricane Relief

Local emergency response agencies came together immediately after Hurricane Harvey made landfall in Texas to develop a coordinated response from the Hot Springs area. Planners who met at the United Way headquarters included; The Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinic, Jackson House, and Project HOPE Food Bank, in consultation with the Garland County Department of Emergency Services.

Announcements through the newspaper, Dick Antoine's "Talk of the Town" radio show, Facebook, and our own electronic newsletter solicited help from the community in the form of specific donations. These included infant formula, baby food not in glass jars, pet food, diapers and wipes, hygiene products of all types, especially feminine hygiene products, and ready-to-eat snack foods. The United Way office served as the community collection point for donated goods, with our "Emergency Alliance" sending goods to a distribution center in Oklahoma in a truck provided by Salvation Army.

Completely on his own initiative, Ricky Garrett of Jessieville conducted a personal donation drive and brought an entire trailer full of goods to the United Way office, accompanied by his friend and colleague Richard Hurst. Ricky is a Captain of the Jessieville Volunteer Fire Department and is a Deputy in the Garland County Sheriff's Department.

At Ricky's direction, the Home Plate Restaurant in Hot Springs Village sent their donations to United Way as well. Restaurateurs Jim and Andrea Sparks had been collecting donations at the Home Plate from their customers, and it took William Harris, a chef at the restaurant, two flatbed trailer deliveries to haul it all in!

## Upcoming Events

### "The Heart Beat"

#### Radio Show

Every Wednesday  
from 8:00 am - 8:30 am  
97.9 FM or KUHSradio.org

[Read More](#)

#### October Topics:

- Abilities Unlimited (10/4)
- United Way of the Ouachitas (10/11)
- AmeriCorps (10/18)
- Hot Springs Area Community Foundation (10/25)

### Take Out 'N' Training

Every 3rd Thursday of each month  
at 11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
United Way Office

[Read More](#)

#### October Topic:

- Round Table Discussion for #GivingTuesday

## Partner Events

### Literacy Council of Garland County

Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast  
Monday, October 2nd  
4426 Central Avenue  
7:00 am - 10:00 am

For more information contact  
Laura Lee Williard, 501-624-7323  
or [director@literacycouncil.xyz](mailto:director@literacycouncil.xyz)

### Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinic

CCMC Golf Classic  
Monday, October 9th  
Hot Springs Country Club

For more information contact, Lynn Blankenship 501-318-1153 or [lynn@ccmchs.com](mailto:lynn@ccmchs.com)

### Girl Scouts

Super volunteers Debbie White and John Lucas sorted through the mountains of donations and boxed them all up for delivery.

## Campaign Kick-Off



Hot Springs Junior Academy Percussion Line performed throughout the Campaign Kick-Off.

Pictured: Valerie Tobin (instructor), Torcan Lowery, Arianna Brown, Dallas Mitchell, Cooper Bull, Lamarion Danuer, Katrina Hodges, Megan Harbut and Alex King.

On Thursday, September 7th, Community Partners from the Ouachita region gathered together to celebrate the official kick-off of the 2017-2018 Campaign.

The Hot Springs Junior Academy Percussion Line started off the morning performing all sorts of cadences as partners rallied together.

The Pacesetter award was given to the Hot Springs School District for the very first time and this is the second year in a row for going above and beyond their campaign goal.

Executive Director of the Literacy Council of Garland County and folksinger, Laura Lee Williard performed multiple songs and informed attendees on the partnership between the Literacy Council and United

Way of the Ouachitas.

## Partner Meeting

2017-2018 Partner Agencies gathered on Thursday, September 28th to go over progress reports, Calendar of Events, CharityTracker, thanking our Partners for participating in the annual campaign and program updates.



Partner Agencies discuss all sorts of ideas with each other.

This year, we have 18 partner agencies and 19 programs being funded. United Way of the Ouachitas has 10 actions of in-house programs run by United Way staff and volunteers.

For further information on our current partners, please check out our [website](#)!

Venture Out  
Saturday, October 14th -  
Sunday, October 15th  
Mid-American Science Museum

**Arkansas Suicide Prevention**  
Out of the Darkness  
Community Walk  
"American Foundation for Suicide Prevention"  
Saturday, October 28th  
Entergy Park  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Register at [afsp.org](http://afsp.org)

**Hot Springs YMCA**  
Halloween at the Y  
Tuesday, October 28th  
YMCA  
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Free to all



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