

# The Advocate

...beyond giving



## Board Holds Funding Steady for 2010

With the help of our faithful donors and dedicated volunteers, Chenango United Way's most recent campaign reached 91% of our stated goal. 1,850 total donors contributed to raise \$423,032. Thank you to everyone who played a part in our success.

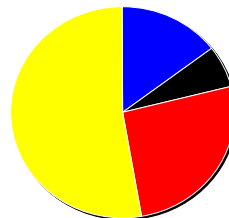
However, the campaign came in \$52,740 less than our previous year's campaign, leaving us with a serious shortfall. In addition, we received \$770,000 in allocation requests from our community partners. Unfortunately, the economic situation in Chenango county had decreased our ability to raise funds to meet the needs of the community at the same time that those needs increased within the community.

Although the campaign came in lower than our goal, the Chenango United Way Board of Directors is pleased to announce that they have maintained the total allocable funds for 2010 at 2009 levels. They have been able to maintain this level of funding by supplementing the allocable dollars raised in the fall campaign by approving a one time release of funds in order to help address these challenging economic times. The purpose of this release of funds is to assist our Community Partner Programs as we all adjust to the difficult economic issues faced by our community.

Based on the fall 2009 campaign, \$373,025 has been allocated to 21 Chenango County programs

and initiatives for 2010. Funds were awarded through the annually competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. These programs each addressed one of our four focus areas. (See Chart) For a list of individual agencies please consult our website, [www.chenangouw.org](http://www.chenangouw.org).

Submitted by Bryne Lewis  
Allport



52%	Children and Youth
26%	Poverty Issues
15%	Access to Healthcare
7%	Aging Population

## Frontier Initiative Aids Food Pantries

In 2009, Frontier communications held its *Great Frontier Donate: Let's Talk Up A Cause* Initiative. Through this partnership, Frontier Communications generously partnered with the Chenango United Way to donate more than \$8,000

in funds to benefit the local hunger need. Frontier Communications spearheaded this special promotion from May 1-October 31, 2009 and the Chenango United Way forwarded these funds to more than 17 Chenango County food pantries and

soup kitchens through the end of 2009. Thank you to Frontier Communications for your generosity and commitment to serving our local community.

Submitted by Elizabeth Monaco

Volume 1, Issue 1  
March 12, 2009

### Special points of interest:

- *Allocations hold steady at 2009 levels (pg 1)*
- *157 Women receive free health exams (pg 2)*
- *Norwich Youth donate \$10,000 (pg 2)*
- *Free tax prep for 1,200 families (pg 2)*
- *Inspiring volunteer story (pg 3)*

### Inside this issue:

<i>Increasing Access to Healthcare</i>	2
<i>Encouraging Youth to Give Back</i>	2
<i>Empowering Working Families</i>	2
<i>The Last Word: Volunteer</i>	3
<i>Volunteer Opportunities</i>	3

## Understanding Your Impact

### Increasing Access to Health Care

Planned Parenthood of South Central New York [PPSCNY] is a grateful recipient of Chenango United Way funding. PPSCNY is a medical health center licensed by the New York State Department of Health. Our high quality medical services are overseen by Diane Georgeson, M.D., a Board certified gynecologist. We offer a full range of reproductive healthcare including annual exams, affordable and easily accessed birth control, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, Rapid HIV/AIDS testing, and screenings for breast, cervical, colorectal or testicular cancer as appropriate.

In 2009 PPSCNY served 1,210

women and men, adults and teens in Chenango County in over 2,500 visits. Planned Parenthood provides accessible and affordable healthcare to Chenango County residents on a sliding fee scale or no fee if need be. In 2009, 259 Chenango County women were unable to pay for services. Our funding from the Chenango United Way assisted us in covering the cost of an annual reproductive and basic health care examination for 157 of those women.

It is the mission of PPSCNY to turn no one away due to inability to pay. For some of our patients, we are their only source of medical care. In the current economic climate, some of

our new patients have never had to access subsidized services before. The support of the Chenango United Way helps us fulfill our mission and provide high quality reproductive and basic

*Your donation assisted*

**157 women** in receiving

*a free basic health exam in 2009.*

healthcare to the residents of Chenango County making a positive impact on health access.

*Submitted by Debra Marcus, CEO, PPSCNY*

### Encouraging Norwich Youth to Give Back

In the spring of 2009, the Norwich High School *Youth Philanthropy Council (YPC)*, a collaborative effort of the Chenango United Way, the Community Foundation for South Central New York, The Upstate Institute at Colgate University, NBT Bank and the Norwich High School, granted its first round of funding to local organizations. The YPC was comprised of 16 high school students who met on a bi-weekly basis to learn about the Chenango community. Mentored by Colgate University students, these high school students spent

their year writing an RFP (Request for Proposal) through which they solicited grant proposals from local health and



Youth Philanthropy Council 2009-2010

human service agencies addressing the issues of mental and physical well-being of youth within disadvantaged families. In May 2009, the students awarded a total of \$10,000 in funds to three programs: The KIDS Program at The Place, the Parent Academy at the Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network and the Parents as Teachers Program at Catholic Charities. A very special thank you to YPC Advisor and NHS teacher, Susan Fertig, for helping to facilitate this exciting new initiative.

*Submitted by Elizabeth Monaco*

### Empowering Working Families

Begun in 2005 and previously known as the EITC Partnership, the *CASH Coalition of Madison and Chenango Counties* consists of more than 15 local organizations working to provide free tax preparation and assistance services to working families in our region. For the 2008 tax season, more than 1,277 tax returns were prepared

through the project, returning more than \$1.8 million in tax returns and more than \$829,500 in earned income tax credits to Madison and Chenango County families. In late 2009, the coalition voted to change its name to the CASH Coalition to reflect the mission of the project beyond just offering free tax preparation to local individuals.

CASH is an acronym for Creating Assets, Savings & Hope and is used across NYS to increase financial literacy and promote long term financial stability for low income, working families through education and asset building.

*Submitted by Elizabeth Monaco*

## Chenango United Way

---

27 W. Main St  
Norwich, NY 13815

Phone: 607-334-8815  
Fax: 607-334-8815  
www.chenangouw.org  
E-mail: info@chenangouw.org

*Live United.*

---

## Volunteer Opportunities

- ☞ **April:** Join our **Day of Caring** committee to help plan our next, county-wide, volunteer event.
- ☞ **June 4: Golf tournament** volunteers needed to assist with registration, set up, hole staffing on the course, etc...
- ☞ **June—August: Mid-year site visit** volunteers needed to assist with reviewing mid-year outcome and financial reports and visiting currently funded Community Partners.
- ☞ **September 25: Day of Caring** volunteers needed to assist with half day projects around the county
- ☞ **October 2010-January 2011- RFP Review Panel** volunteers needed to review and score funding requests for 2011
- ☞ **October 2010-January 2011- Office volunteers** needed to help write thank you letters to donors, file campaign packets and assist with general campaign office work

Please call Bryne Lewis Allport 334-8815 for more information or to volunteer.

---

## The Last Word: Volunteer

---

My name is Charlie McMullen and I run the soup kitchen in Oxford, NY. My interest in volunteering began on May 7, 2000 when I received a life saving liver transplant. With this new gift of life, I



Charlie McMullen with volunteers at Taste N' See Soup Kitchen, Chenango United Way's Day of Caring 2009

started serving at Our Daily Bread food pantry in Norwich. I enjoyed the feeling of helping others, providing community members with a hot meal and a sense of belonging. I realized then that I wanted to begin my own program and we served our first meal at the Taste and See Soup Kitchen in November 1999.

While waiting for my liver transplant, I joined the YMCA in Norwich and met people from all walks of life in our county. They led me to other opportunities for volunteering: Habitat for Humanity, Girl Scout troops, Chenango United Way, youth programs and wrestling events. I continue to support issues that are important to me.

I believe anyone can make a difference in the lives of others by volunteering and advocating for important causes. I currently serve on the Boards of Directors for Chenango United Way, Hospice, the YMCA and Dollars for Scholars. I practice three things every day. I give my time to help others. I advocate for important causes in our county. Finally, I volunteer, because without volunteers nothing could get done! I live UNITED!

*Submitted by Charlie McMullen*



*Chenango United Way builds partnerships and maximizes resources to improve the quality of life for local residents. Our mission depends on working together with organizations, volunteers and donors to create long-lasting, positive change in our community.*