



United Way  
of Southwest Wyoming

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[www.swunitedway.org](http://www.swunitedway.org)

*Uniting People,  
Sharing Resources,  
Improving Lives in  
Southwest Wyoming.*

## EDUCATION – Helping Children & Youth Achieve Their Potential



*A child who participates in a quality early learning program is 49% more likely to graduate from high school.*

Left: Evanston Development Center students

*United Way provides funding for seven early learning programs in Southwest Wyoming, serving over 2,200 children.*

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# FALL NEWSLETTER 2009



## Helping Families Cover Prescription Costs

### FREE FamilyWize Prescription Card

This is a FREE program. ANYONE can use it. You don't have to apply, qualify or wait for a card to come in the mail.

- 35% average savings for the entire family
- Covers all prescription drugs
- For people with no insurance, or for medicine not covered by insurance, Medicaid or Medicare
- Accepted at most pharmacies
- No paperwork
- No enrollment, activation or fees
- No age or income restrictions

[www.FamilyWize.org](http://www.FamilyWize.org)

for a list of pharmacies & drug prices.

If you need medicine not covered by your insurance plan, or don't have health insurance, you need the FamilyWize prescription drug discount card being distributed by United Way of Southwest Wyoming.

This card could lower the cost of your medicine by an average of 35 percent. Savings are provided by participating pharmacies.

"The FamilyWize prescription drug discount cards will help individuals and families who otherwise could not afford to buy the medicine they need. Forty percent of adults do not buy the medicine they need, have difficulty affording it or reduce the required dosage because of the high cost. Too many people have insufficient coverage, no prescription coverage or need medications not covered by their insurance, Medicare, Medicaid or VA benefits," said Suzanne Zutter, Executive Director of United Way of Southwest Wyoming.

From April 2008 - October 2009 over \$1.3 million in claims have been submitted by Southwest Wyoming residents. These residents received an average

**\$439,400.22**

TOTAL SOUTHWEST WYOMING  
CITIZENS' SAVINGS  
April 2008 - October 2009

savings of 31% on medications.

People with Internet access can go to [www.FamilyWize.org](http://www.FamilyWize.org) to print a card, look up drug prices, and get a list of participating pharmacies. These pharmacies have agreed voluntarily to accept the FamilyWize cards and provide these savings to people in need.

Brown Printing, Independent Graphics and Rob-Win Press of greater Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania donate the printing for the cards, Sappi Fine Paper provides some of the paper, FedEx Express donates the shipping of the cards and the pharmacy benefit manager provides a portion of the processing fee to cover the administrative costs.

Help us name the  
United Way newsletter.  
Send your ideas to  
[marketing@swunitedway.org](mailto:marketing@swunitedway.org).

### BE IN THE KNOW

If you would like to receive occasional e-mails on the happenings of United Way please send your e-mail address to [marketing@swunitedway.org](mailto:marketing@swunitedway.org) or visit our website at [www.swunitedway.org](http://www.swunitedway.org).

### John Bunning Transfer LIVES UNITED



## COMMUNITY PARTNER FEATURE

Your donations at work

MARY'S STORY submitted by SW-WRAP

This true story is a testimony about you and the people of our community. Because of your community investment in United Way, Southwest Wyoming Recovery Access Programs (SW-WRAP), a United Way Community Partner, was able to provide assistance to Mary and her husband through the United Way First Call for Help and Basic Needs and Emergency Assistance (BNEA) programs.

Mary\* and her husband were homeless. Mary has Cirrhosis of the liver and her doctor had given her two months to live.

Waiting to receive Social Security benefits, the couple decided to camp on the river. In August, they sought help from SW-WRAP; Mary was very ill and thin. SW-WRAP assisted the couple with a gas voucher, care package and coordinated with local community organizations, businesses, landlords, churches and law enforcement to assist the couple with their most immediate needs. Over the next few weeks SW-WRAP provided them with voucher based assistance for clothing, food, gas and basic supplies.

In September, Mary had a seizure but did not go to the hospital. At this point she had exceeded the life span that the doctors had given her. The weather was starting to turn, the

## FIRST CALL FOR HELP

A SW-WRAP Community Initiative  
A free community program to assist with life's challenges



Drug & alcohol addiction  
Tax preparation  
Special needs  
Paying utility bills  
Transportation  
Coats for children  
Food  
Out-of-control teenagers  
AND MORE!

877-435-7851 Toll Free

Serving Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater and Uinta Counties



nights were getting cold, and there was concern about Mary's health. She needed to get out of the weather and made as comfortable as possible. SW-WRAP provided emergency shelter through a local hotel.

In October, SW-WRAP found Mary and her husband safe and affordable housing. Our community donated furniture and other basic supplies to get the couple settled in their new home.

SW-WRAP recently learned that Mary will receive a liver transplant.

\*name changed

## FRAMING HOPE PROJECT

Do you know someone who needs a new door on their home, or maybe a light fixture but can't afford one? It could be a family, or your elderly neighbor. If so, contact United Way.

United Way has hundreds of items available for those in need in Southwest Wyoming. From household and cleaning items to building supplies and plumbing products. If Home Depot sells it, United Way might have it. Home Depot in Rock Springs has been matched with United Way through Gifts In Kind International.

United Way picks up donated products from Home Depot as they become available and distributes the items to its community partners in Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater and Uinta Counties. Community partners can then give items to clients or use them for repairs or upgrades, lowering their overhead expenses allowing more of their budget to meet clients' needs.



Thomas Fricke loads donated products from Home Depot that will be stored in a City of Rock Springs building. Due to the high volume of goods, storage was needed. Working with the Urban Renewal Agency, United Way entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City for the building. With the help of volunteers the space will be made into a "store" where community partners and individuals can go and "shop" for needed items.

www.swunitedway.org

## WELCOME TO WYOMING VISTA VOLUNTEERS - United Way "hires" new staff



Thomas Fricke, from Washington, will be working closely with First Call for Help to create a central intake system to establish comprehensive updatable information and referral services representing community resources throughout Southwest Wyoming.



Emily George, from Rhode Island, will be exploring options, forming partnerships and collaborations to provide psychiatric care for all ages. Emily will also research affordable and accessible options for health, optical and dental services for Southwest Wyoming residents.



Molly Foulds, from Connecticut, will be working to create and develop partnerships with community organizations to provide additional quality and affordable childcare, marketing assistance to child care programs, and assisting in the creation of afterschool programs.



Left to right: Thomas Fricke, Emily George, Molly Foulds

Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) work to create sustainable programs that will endure and expand beyond the VISTA Member's service. Thomas Fricke (TF), Emily George (EG) and Molly Foulds (MF) have committed to serve full-time for one year to United Way of Southwest Wyoming.

### Why Wyoming?

TF: United Way was the first to respond and give me the opportunity for work. I researched the area and it sounded like a great place to spend a year and work with the community.

EG: I thought working with United Way would be a great opportunity, specifically with healthcare issues. I was also looking for an experience that would be different from the New England environment and geography.

MF: I had three choices—Philadelphia, New York City and Rock Springs. I have

lived on the East Coast my whole life and I was ready to go somewhere completely different. After my interview, I was much more motivated to make the big move to help this community.

### What do you hope to accomplish?

TF: To send the message that everyone can help. From the elderly to children, I want to help create a cycle of awareness of what they can do for the community and what the community can do for them.

EG: I want to help in any way possible and to leave here knowing that I helped make a difference in someone's life.

MF: I hope to make the lives of citizens in the community easier. I want to relieve them of as many burdens as possible and help them in any way I can.

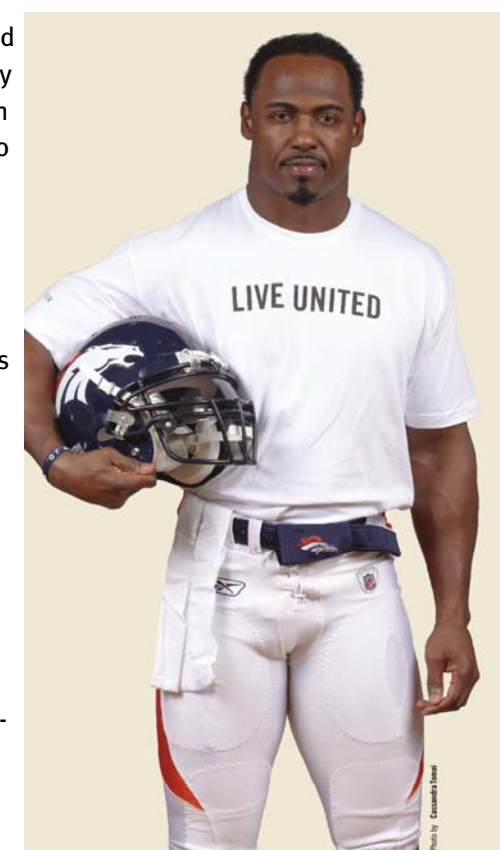
### What is the most difficult thing about being a VISTA?

TF: Bridging the gap between my culture and way-of-life to new ways of doing things and the struggle of moving to a new place and leaving my friends and family.

EG: Living at the poverty level while helping others who are also living in poverty. However, it is helping me to better understand the critical needs for those who need a helping hand.

MF: I know every little bit helps, but it's still hard to know that there are other people out there who are in need and we just haven't reached them yet.

Each VISTA Member receives a living



BRIAN DAWKINS Denver Broncos

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.  
LIVE UNITED

United Way  
United Way of Southwest Wyoming  
Want to make a difference?  
Find out how at SWUNITEDWAY.ORG.

allowance, health care benefits, child-care assistance, student loan deferment, one year non-competitive status for a federal government job, and access to a network of 170,000 VISTA Members and Alumni. Upon completion they will receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award or post-service stipend, all funded through the AmeriCorps VISTA Program.

## SAVE THE DATE

31st Annual Awards & Recognition Event  
April 23, 2010