

Your Donations At Work Brant United Way Helps Build Confident Individuals



Before Justin* joined the Navy League's Sea Cadet Program he had been constantly teased and bullied by his classmates because of his personal interests. This left him

feeling isolated, scared and very unhappy. When his parents transferred him to a new school the teasing and bullying stopped, however Justin was still quite introverted and afraid to make new friends.

On his first night at the Navy League, a United Way Agency, Justin felt welcomed and accepted by his new peers. He instantly made friends and was encouraged to try new things, but most of all the Navy League helped Justin become more confident and develop a positive self-esteem. The Navy League changed Justin's life and now he participates in a wide range of activities and has even joined a sports team, something he would never have done before. Justin looks forward to giving back to his community. He wants to help children like himself gain self esteem and receive the help and support they need to become confident individuals.

**Name changed to protect identity*



TRISH KINGS

2010 Campaign Message from the Campaign Chair

I am truly honoured to be the Campaign Chair for the 2010 Brant United Way Campaign and to be working with such a dedicated group of volunteers on the Cabinet team.

I was born and raised in Brantford and my husband and I have enjoyed raising our children in this wonderful community.

As an educator, I have seen firsthand how the Brant United Way has supported programs that provide assistance to families and children in our school communities. The Brant United Way and its Member Agencies are dedicated to improving the lives of people in the Brant community and provide them with a hand up when needed. I have been a volunteer Cabinet Member for the last four years because as I believe in my community, I believe in this organization. As the past Division Chair for the Catholic Education Sector, I encouraged all of my colleagues and peers to participate in the annual Campaign. Last year the Catholic Education Division raised more money for Brant United Way than ever before.

I am happy to announce that planning is well underway for this year's Campaign. Starting in April, our Cabinet Volunteers will be making calls to our current workplace campaigns and new prospects seeking their support. We will also be reaching out to individuals in our community and getting their support as well.

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Important Dates

GIANT WAREHOUSE SALE

Saturday, June 5, 2010

Interested volunteers,
please e-mail:
warehouse@brantunitedway.org

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
The Sherwood Restaurant

CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF

Date TBD

Planning is underway,
stay tuned for details.

WORKPLACE CAMPAIGNS

September to

November 24th, 2010

ACHIEVEMENT LUNCHEON

December 15th, 2010



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So, when a volunteer calls or a letter arrives, please take a moment to consider what you can do as a local business owner or individual to help Brant United Way further its mission to improve the lives of people in the Brant community. It is important for you to know that your donation will make a difference in our community and enable the Brant United Way to support the vital services that have touched the lives of tens of thousands of people in this community last year.

Please join our call to action and help United Way reach their goal. Inspire your co-workers, friends and families to give, and discover the change that happens when we all work together.

Trish Kings

2010 Campaign Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We've had a busy winter here at Brant United Way!

I would personally like to thank all of you who offered your assistance and support during our transition. Member Agencies, volunteers and community colleagues have whole-heartedly endorsed the new directions the Board is taking the organization, and we look forward to sharing these new directions as we implement them.

One of my most overwhelming impressions of my new interim position is the enthusiasm and dedication in the volunteer sector at every level. This passion exemplifies Brant United Way's motto, "I believe in my community" through tireless efforts on the part of countless volunteers who strive to truly make a difference in their community.

This enthusiasm was given an extra boost when our campaign surpassed its goal of 1.4M! What an accomplishment in this economy – can there be better evidence of believing in your community?

Brant United Way and its Member Agencies seek to address the "root causes" of problems affecting our neighbours. Throughout my career in the social services field, the problem of finding the right service when you need it has constantly eluded community agencies despite many stellar efforts to provide this up to date information across the community. Studies show repeatedly that individuals and families who can access information and services when they need them, recover

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from their difficulties faster and more successfully. A long standing problem in community, health and social services is the immense difficulties faced by people in finding out what resources are available to them, when they need them.

For this reason Brant United Way and the City of Brantford are exploring **211-Connecting People to Services** for Brantford and Brant County. 211 is an easy to remember telephone and internet reference listing of local community, social, health services and related government programs. 211 currently reaches approximately 55% of Ontario residents. Over the next few months several presentations are slated to educate the community about 211 and assemble our local database of information so that implementation can be ready for 2011.

This is just one of Brant United Way's exciting initiatives for 2010. As I am writing this the Campaign staff and Cabinet are implementing strategies for the 2010 Campaign which will allow our Member Agencies to continue their positive impact on the Brant Community.

Your ongoing support of Brant United Way is immensely appreciated.

Deb Ballak

Interim Executive Director

Community Impact – *The ships rise with the tides*

Brant United Way works very hard to ensure that money is raised in our community to give back to our community through our Member Agency partners. These dollars ensure that necessary programs and services are provided for all members of Brantford and Brant County.

Equally important is the impact that these vital services have on the people in our community. We at the Brant United Way are fortunate to have seen first-hand the real, lasting change that these programs make in people's lives. Their experiences stay with them forever and the appreciation for these programs and services last a lifetime.

Brant United Way is like an elastic band that holds the community together. Your endless support as donors and volunteers ensure that we can continue to be the building blocks of Brantford and Brant County. Together, we can continue to be the change we want to see in our community.

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Brant United Way

MEMBER AGENCY ALLOCATIONS

The citizens of Brantford and Brant rallied together to help their neighbours during a very difficult year. It is clear that this year's economic difficulties brought out the best in people wanting to help out their fellow community members.

We are happy to announce that our 18 Member Agencies received \$870,000 from Brant United Way in March 2010.

Brant United Way Member Agencies received the following 2010-2011 allocations:

Adult Recreation Therapy Centre	57,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk	42,000
Boys & Girls Club of Brantford	30,000
Brant Food for Thought	24,000
Brantwood Residential Development Centre	64,000
The Canadian Hearing Society	60,000
CNIB	45,000
Canadian Red Cross Society	75,000
Community Resource Service	47,500
Crossing All Bridges Learning Centre Inc.	22,000
Family Counselling Centre of Brant	135,000
Kids Can Fly	23,000
Literacy Council of Brantford & District	21,000
Navy League of Canada Brantford Branch	21,000
Nova Vita Domestic Violence Prevention Services	67,500
Sexual Assault Centre of Brant	30,000
Victim Services of Brant	30,000
YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford	76,000

These allocations were made after a rigorous assessment by a dedicated group of volunteers. They visited each agency and carefully reviewed every application which included a full analysis of their budget and programs. The Allocations Committee had some difficult decisions to make but once made their recommendations were brought to the United Way Board of Directors. The diligence of this process ensures that the money is invested in the community where it's needed the most.

We understand the need to address the root cause of a problem. The programs provided by our Member Agencies offer temporary support in crisis situations, to preventative solutions that ensure citizens of this community have the support they need to prosper.

Donations to Brant United Way are invested locally and address the most pressing community issues. Approximately 45,000 citizens have been helped by over 50 programs supported by Brant United Way.