

United Way surpasses community campaign goal

Bryan Kidder, FH

The campaign for our local United Way, led by strong giving from the Hanford sector, has raised more than \$4.6 million to date. This is 9 percent more than the \$4.25 million goal established at the beginning of the drive.

The Hanford Site contributed nearly \$2.35 million, the highest in the history of the United Way drives at Hanford. The drive totals were announced at the campaign closing dinner on Nov. 27.

Department of Energy employee contributions were counted in the “public sector” portion of the campaign, which includes employees from city, county, state and federal governmental bodies as well as local school districts. This division raised more than \$409,000.

Gail Greager, director of Resource Development for the United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties, called this the most remarkable campaign ever. “Our community gave from the heart,” Greager said. “Amid national economic and security concerns and a desire to help those in need in New York, our community showed it is big enough to help those both near and far.”

Hanford leaders played key roles in the campaign for 2001. Ed Aromi of CH2M HILL Hanford Group is the fund-raising chair for United Way. The Hanford sector was co-chaired by Dave Van Leuven of Fluor Hanford and Tom Schaffer of the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council. Bob Rosselli of the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office was the chair for the public sector drive. The Vintner Campaign was led by Mike Hughes of Bechtel Hanford (see below).



As these contestants in Lockheed Martin Services’ “homecoming pageant” can attest, this year’s United Way drive allowed for some unusual methods of fund-raising. Cindy Moody-Brock and Otis Wilson were crowned king and queen.

Hughes chairs successful Vintner campaign

Steve Sautter, BHI

This year’s United Way Vintner campaign followed the general trend of overall donations — up!

Vintners — individuals or couples who donate \$1,000 or more to the annual United Way campaign — have given nearly \$1.5 million to this year’s campaign, an increase of nearly 10 percent over 2000.

“These donors do not seek personal recognition,” said Mike Hughes, president of Bechtel Hanford and this year’s United Way Vintner chairman. “They are individuals with strong personal commitments to their local community and one or more of the United Way agencies.”

Hughes said that 841 individuals have given at the Vintner level so far during this year’s campaign, which officially ends March 31. At the completion of the 2000 United Way campaign, 828 Vintners had donated a little more than \$1.3 million.

While Hughes applauded the commitment of the Vintners, he stressed the importance of all contributors. “The success of the United Way campaign depends upon all those who give — no matter at what level,” he said.

The Vintners will be recognized at a community event in May. ♦