UNITED WAY OF ILLINOIS 2009-2010 United Way of Illinois Board

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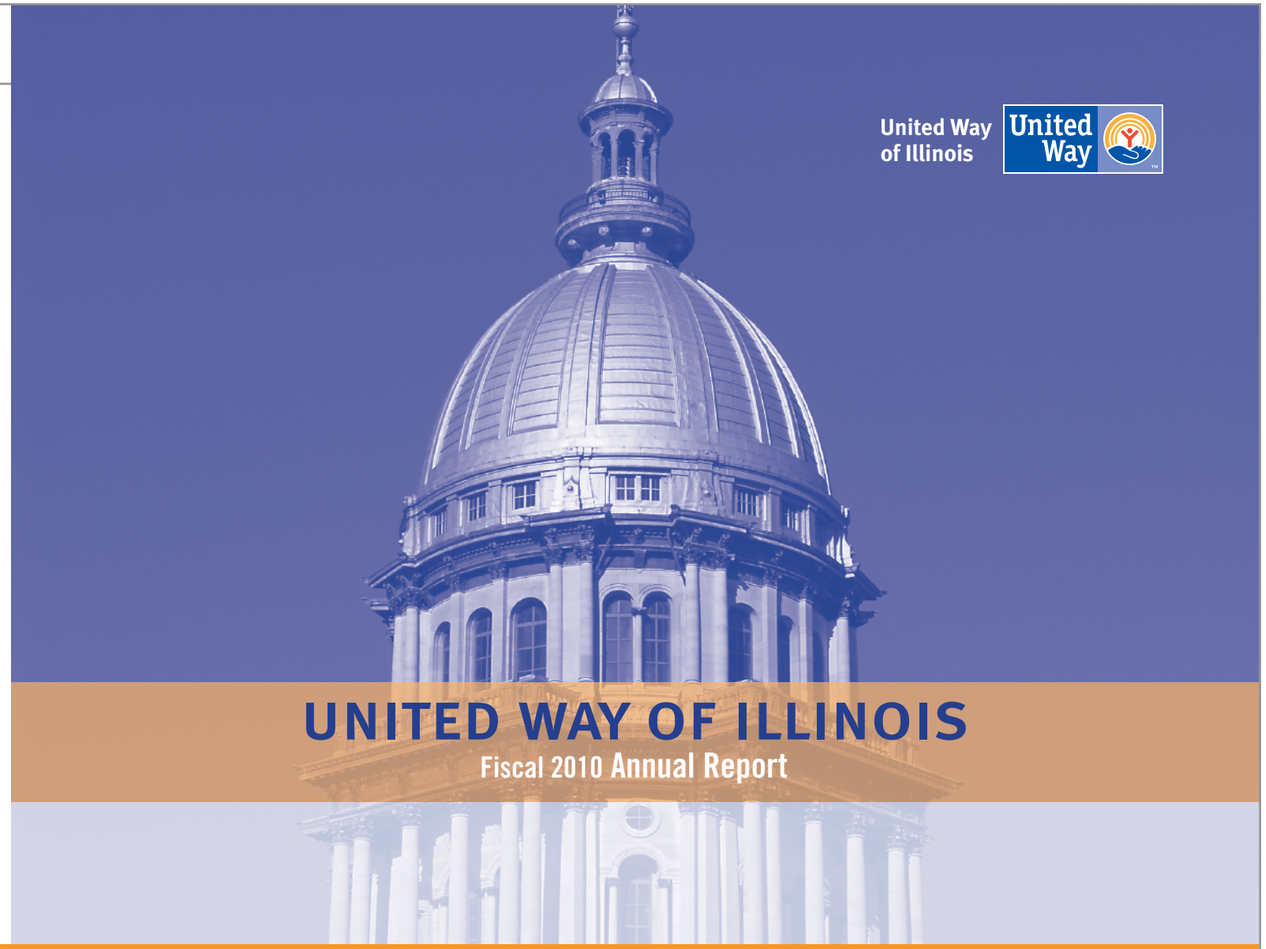

United Way of Illinois

UNITED WAY OF ILLINOIS

Fiscal 2010 Annual Report

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United Way of Illinois

our mission: United Way of Illinois is a statewide association of 57 local organizations that create long-lasting community change by helping children and youth achieve their potential, promoting financial stability and family independence and improving people's health.

Dear United Way of Illinois Members:

Over the last year, United Way of Illinois and its 57 member organizations have continued our collaboration to ensure that the people of Illinois have access to the health, income and education programs they need for a good quality of life.

As the largest non-governmental funder of health and human care services in our respective communities, United Ways across the state know first-hand the hardships that our providers and recipients are dealing with day in and day out. Because of you, United Way continues to be the leader in establishing a strong and stable infrastructure of services across Illinois.

In 2010, United Way of Illinois put forth an aggressive public policy agenda. Representing statewide concerns, the agenda is a continuation of our strategic planning. With a mounting state budget deficit that has resulted in millions of dollars lost in back payments and budget cuts, many health and human care agencies will be forced to reduce or freeze the number of people they serve.

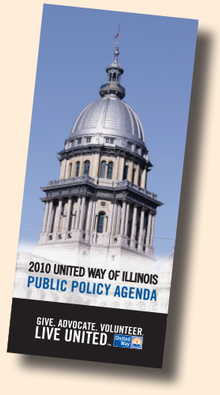
This past spring, United Way of Illinois brought together staff and volunteers from United Ways across the state to advocate in Springfield for the adoption of a state budget that protects critical funding of Illinois' health and human care services. Together, we illustrated how challenging the current economic climate is to the daily operations of health and human care agencies in a time when demand continues to increase.

Over this past year, our organization has had many other successes including the passing of the 2-1-1 Service Act in January. The 13 counties participating in the state-wide pilot assisted with more than 19,000 calls helping individuals and families with housing and utility needs and providing much-needed access to information on how to get help. As we move forward, we're hopeful that 2-1-1 will continue to provide a one-stop connection to food and shelter resources, physical and mental health resources, employment services, help for seniors and people with disabilities and resources for children and families.

While we're facing another tough year ahead, I'm confident we can inspire hope and create opportunities so that everyone can become independent. United, our efforts are part of long, lasting change that will continue to strengthen the health and well-being of our state and its people. That's what it means to Live United.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Stephan
President, Heart of Illinois United Way



Advancing the Common Good Through Public Policy

Public Policy Agenda 2009/2010 Summary of Accomplishments

JULY — **2-1-1 Business Planning Steering Committee**
Diverse representatives from 18 organizations initiate the process to develop a business plan which will guide the development of 2-1-1 on a statewide basis in Illinois.

AUGUST — **2-1-1 Service Act**
This law, signed by Governor Quinn at the offices of United Way of Metropolitan Chicago, advances the statewide development and implementation of a toll free 24-hour service line connecting the public with health and human services.

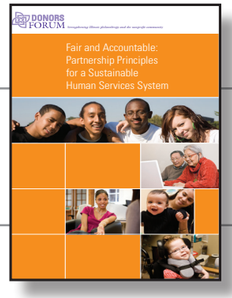
SEPTEMBER — **State Budget Impact Survey**
United Way surveyed over 500 human service providers in Illinois to assess and report the detrimental effects of recent state budget cuts.

OCTOBER — **Illinois Human Services Database**
United Way, in conjunction with Chicago Community Trust, the Donors Forum, the State of Illinois, and the City of Chicago began meeting to develop a database which will enable human service funders to better meet the diverse needs of all Illinois communities.

NOVEMBER — **Human Services Commission**
Governor Quinn signed an Executive Order creating this Commission, which will make recommendations regarding high quality, efficient and effective human services to all Illinois citizens. United Way played an active role in the establishment of this Commission.

JANUARY — **2010 Public Policy Agenda**
United Way of Illinois board approves agenda, which includes endorsement of "Partnership Principles for Sustainable Human Services System," to promote fair and efficient contracting practices between service providers and government funders.

FEBRUARY — **Statewide Budget Impact Survey Follow-up**
In this second survey, almost 500 agencies representing every county in Illinois reported that the combination of budget cuts and delayed payments were having devastating effects on programs that assisted individuals and families in the communities they served.



MARCH — **Capitol Hill Day in Washington, D.C.**
United Way of Illinois delegation joined 1000 UW board members and staff in meetings with 440 Congressional offices to raise awareness of the work accomplished by United Way.

APRIL — **Annual Lobby Day in Springfield**
A statewide contingent of local United Way board members and staff met with legislative and executive office leaders to thank them for their continued support of 2-1-1 and urge them to preserve human service funding and support legislation that would make service delivery more efficient.

MAY — **Streamlined Auditing Bill Passes**
This legislation requires several state departments to find ways to reduce administrative costs associated with duplication in program and accreditation audits as well as agency oversight.