

Valley United Way

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Proudly Serving the Valley Community since 1995

United Way



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April, 2009

Mission Statement

The Corporate Volunteer Council strives to enhance the quality of life in the Valley by promoting and fostering corporate volunteerism through the sharing of ideas and information on corporate volunteer management and actions that can be driven to address issues of community concern.

All efforts performed by the CVC will be conducted to collectively embrace change and leverage diversity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 28, 2009 – Valley United Way Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner

5:15 p.m. at John J. Sullivan's, 557 Wakelee Ave., Ansonia. For reservations, call 926-9478 or visit www.valleyunitedway.com.

April Food Pantry Drives

The CVC has established a year-round collection schedule to ensure a steady supply of food to the needy. Each month, local businesses conduct food drives on their premises for the **Area Congregations Together Food Pantry**. ACT also runs Spooner House, a homeless shelter in Shelton. Companies holding drives this month are:

- T. D. Bank
- Hilton Garden Inn

Clothing Drives in April

CVC companies conduct monthly clothing drives throughout the year. Clothes are donated to **My Sister's Place** thrift shop which sells the clothing to benefit The Umbrella Domestic Violence Program and the **Helping Hands** thrift shop run by Father McKenna St. Vincent De Paul Society. Conducting drives this month:

- Prudential
- NEC Infrontia & NEC Unified Solutions
- Iroquois Gas Transmission
- Ned Miller Associates
- T. D. Bank

April CVC Meeting

The next CVC committee meeting will be held **Thursday, April 16, 2009 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**, hosted by Basement Systems at 60 Silvermine Road, Seymour. All CVC members are invited to attend.

Hold the Date!

CVC Quarterly Social Event

Thursday July 16, 5 – 7 p.m.

at Basement Systems, Seymour

Do you have contacts in other Valley companies that might like to join the CVC? Pass their information to Dan Fitzgerald at danf@basementsystems.com so they can be sent an invitation to this event.

The Impact of a Caring Business Community: CVC Annual Meeting & Awards



Fran Scarpa, owner of Center Stage Theatre performs a musical number for CVC members. Center Stage is a non-profit community theatre that presents first-rate plays, musicals and cabarets in an intimate space.

Members of the Valley United Way's Corporate Volunteer Council (CVC) were honored at the CVC's first **Annual Meeting and Awards Event** held April 2nd. Hosted at **Center Stage Theatre** in Shelton, the event recognized the significant impact that Valley businesses have made to the community through their participation on the Corporate Volunteer Council. "Tonight is about celebrating your efforts," said Pat Tarasovic, during her opening remarks. "The Valley United Way and our partner agencies want to thank you for the positive impact you make to our community."

Attendees enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres by David M. Grant Caterers, and a musical performance by Fran

Scarpa, who along with her husband Gary, owns Center Stage Theatre. The evening also included remarks from the directors of several United Way partner agencies, including Susan Agamy from ACT/Spooner House, Susan DeLeon from the Birmingham Group's Umbrella Program, Bob Walsh from St. Vincent de Paul Society's Helping Hands, Carol Kirby from the Red Cross, Janet Onidi from the Parent Child Resource Center and Suzanne Reilly from the Valley YMCA. Each director talked about how their clients benefited from CVC programs and thanked the members for their generous support.

Pat Tarasovic, Jack Walsh and Mike Marcinek, VUW Chairman of Board then presented certificates of appreciation to each of the company representatives present. The final presentation was the **CVC Community Impact Award**, given to Pitney Bowes in recognition of its extraordinary level of contribution, including an annual cash-for-food drive that produced more than \$10,000 in food donations to ACT, the adoption of 42 children for the Back-to-School Clothes for Kids program, and holiday gifts and food to numerous Valley residents.

CVC representatives who were not able to attend the event can obtain their certificates of appreciation at the next CVC meeting or by stopping by the Valley United Way office.



Susan DeLeon of The Umbrella thanks council members for their efforts.



Left: Bill Bubbico accepts the Community Impact Award for Pitney Bowes. Top: CVC members socialize before the meeting.

For more photos, go to www.ValleyUnitedWay.org. Photography by Fred Ortoli.

CVC Member Companies
 Arson Productions
 Altair Global Relocation
 Barnum Financial Group
 Basement Systems
 Better Packages
 BIC Corporation
 Bright Horizons
 CDW-G
 Citi Bank
 Comcast
 Computershare
 David M. Grant Caterers
 DeDonato Building
 Emhart Technologies
 Enterprise Rent-A-Car
 F.W. Serra, Inc.
 Fletcher Thompson
 Fred Ortol Photography
 GE International
 Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce
 HSBC Bank, USA
 Hamworthy Peabody
 Health Net
 Hilton Garden Inn
 Holiday Inn Express
 Homewood Suites
 Iroquois Gas
 Kerite Company
 Latex International
 Market Data Retrieval
 Marks of Design
 Microsol, Inc.
 NEC Infrontia & NEC Unified Solutions
 Naugatuck Savings Bank
 Ned Miller Associates
 Newtown Savings Bank
 People's United Bank
 PerkinElmer
 Pitney Bowes
 Professional Travel
 Prudential Financial, Inc.
 SSC, Inc.
 Sikorsky Aircraft
 Starbucks
 T.D. Bank
 The Greenwich Workshop
 The Hartford
 The McIntyre Group
 United Illuminating
 Wachovia
 WalMart
 Warner Insurance & Financial
 Webster Bank
 William Raveis Real Estate



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COMPANY OF INTEREST:

A conversation with Marie Figueroa, Senior Financial Analyst



Give us a brief overview of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation.

Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., headquartered in Stratford CT, is a world leader in the design, production, and service of commercial and military rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft. Our well-known rotary wing products include the BLACK HAWK, SEAHAWK, H-53, and Schweizer light helicopters. Our services and support organization, Sikorsky Aerospace Services, provides full spectrum service solutions to fixed and rotary wing, commercial and military customers worldwide.

With a growing workforce topping 14,000 workers, Sikorsky is proud to have an employee base that comprises the best and brightest minds in the aviation industry.

Although Sikorsky is not located in the Valley, you actively support the Valley with your outreach efforts. Why is that?

Although we are not technically in the Valley, Sikorsky employs thousands of Valley residents. It is our goal to reach out not only to the communities that support our employees and their families, but all the communities around us.

What are some of the CVC programs that your employees support?

Our employees have supported the CVC's holiday adopt-a-family campaign for two years now, donating over \$4,000 each year to purchase gifts and food for needy Valley families. Numerous Sikorsky employees donated their time to set up TEAM's Toys for Tots toy store in both 2007 and 2008. We also provided clothing and school supplies to 19 children in the 2008 Back-To-School



Sikorsky Finance employees purchased clothes for 19 Seymour students in the Back-to-School Clothes for Kids effort. Marie Figueroa, a member of Sikorsky's C.A.R.E. Team, serves as CVC representative for Sikorsky and has been with the company for two years.

Clothes for Kids program. We are currently planning a summer food drive to help fill the food bank when donations typically drop off.

As a CVC representative, how do you encourage volunteerism among your employees?

Sikorsky's business units are vast, which makes organizing community efforts on an enterprise-wide level difficult. For this reason the Finance department, made up of 250 professionals, created an employee engagement team called C.A.R.E. (Communication, Activities, Recognition and Engagement). This team of a dozen volunteers supports the Corporate Volunteer Council as a significant part of our community service activities. We attempt to conduct four community-minded activities per year, one per quarter. In this way, we are able to organize and run successful campaigns, and make a difference to those in our communities.

CVC COLLECTION COMMITTEES:

Cell Phone Collection – Used phones for victims of domestic violence

Team Leads:
 Walter Binck 922-1199 ext. 250
 Wbinck@hamworthy-peabody.com
 Carol Pendagast 926-0001
 carolp@fwserra.com

Clothing Collection – Used clothes for the Umbrella Program & St. Vincent DePaul Helping Hands of the Valley

Team Leads:
 Sue Millican 925-7255
 Sue_Millican@iroquois.com
 Mandi Marcino 203-944-0777 ext. 241
 mam@themcintyregroup.com

Caring Circle – Knitted blankets and apparel for clients at Umbrella

Team Leads:
 Antonietta Hallet 402-1405
 Antonietta.hallet@prudential.com

Notions Collection – Toiletries for the men living at the Valley YMCA

Team Lead:
 Antonietta Hallet 402-1405
 Antonietta.hallet@prudential.com

Food Pantry – Corporate food drives to benefit area food banks

Team Lead:
 Bonnie Sinclair 926-5407
 Bsinclair@necinfrontia.com

Michelle Fabozzi 944-3385
 michelle.fabozzi@corporate.ge.com

Computer Collection – Refurbished equipment donated to charities

Team Lead:
 Alan Tolmich 929-9746
 atolmich@sbcglobal.net

Valley United Way

Jack Walsh, President & Chief Operating Officer
Jack.walsh@valleyunitedway.org
 Patricia C. Tarasovic, Director, Volunteer Center
Patricia.Tarasovic@valleyunitedway.org

CVC 2009 Co-Chairs

Dotty Cacchillo, Wal*Mart Derby
magnamo@sbcglobal.net
 Antonietta Hallet, Prudential
Antonietta.hallet@prudential.com

Forward comments regarding the CVC newsletter to:

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