



United Way of  
Williamson County

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### 15 Local Organizations to Receive United Way of Williamson County Funding

United Way of Williamson County (UWWC) has announced the 2009-2010 Community Investment Grants awarded to fifteen nonprofit programs serving the residents of Williamson County. Each of the funded programs is aimed at creating an impact in a specific area such as improving school readiness, increasing graduation rates, increasing the number of families receiving health care, or helping families achieve financial stability.

"It is our responsibility to those who invest in United Way to focus on programs that have a measurable impact on our community," said Dick Hunter, chair of the United Way of Williamson County Board of Directors. "The thoughtful and careful process used by our review panel to determine funding for local programming is one of the main reasons why donors believe in our mission. As stewards we must ensure that the donor's monies are supporting programs that make the most impact."

A total of 38 organizations had originally requested in excess of \$1 million from United Way. A group of community volunteers spent more than 600 hours whittling down the list to those whose programs demonstrated the closest alignment to United Way of Williamson County's impact goals in the areas of education, income, and health.

"We wish we were able to fully fund all the requests," said LeAnn Powers, Chief Professional Officer at United Way of Williamson County. "The nonprofit organizations in our community are doing an incredible job, however we have some very ambitious goals so we have to be extremely strategic in allocating funds. Too many kids in Williamson County are dropping out of high school, too many families lack health insurance, and poverty is on the rise."

The following programs were approved for the United Way of Williamson County 2009-2010 Community Investment Grants:

***Capital IDEA***

Career Paths for Williamson County (\$40,000)

***Catholic Charities of Central Texas***

Family Strengthening Initiative: Financial Fitness (\$20,000)

***Cedar Park Library Foundation***

Every Child Ready to Read (\$10,000)

***Communities in Schools of Central Texas***

School Mentoring in Williamson County (\$20,000)

***Easter Seals Central Texas***

Bilingual Service Coordination (\$10,000)

***Family Eldercare***

In-Home Care & Caregivers Services (\$20,000)

***Hope Alliance***

Emergency Shelter (\$40,000)

**Interagency Support Council of East Williamson County**

School Based Mental Health (\$30,000)

**Literacy Council of Williamson County**

Project: Moving Up (\$20,000)

**Lone Star Circle of Care**

2009 Service Expansion (\$30,000)

**Round Rock Area Serving Center**

Food Pantry (\$20,000)

**Samaritan Health Ministries**

Healthcare for Uninsured (\$30,000)

**Seedling Foundation**

Seedling's Promise (\$20,000)

**STARRY**

Eliminating Barriers: STARRY Navigates Children to Academic Success (\$20,000)

**Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center**

Mental Health Services for Abused Children (\$30,000)

As is apparent from the diversity of these programs, UWWC is committed to investing in programming that is effective and making an impact in the community. In addition to the grants, UWWC partners with nonprofits in the community through coalition work, focused collaborations, advocacy and volunteerism to make our community a better place to live.

**About United Way of Williamson County:** *United Way of Williamson County is a volunteer driven, community-based, nonprofit organization with a goal to focus and unite the community to create significant lasting change that positively impacts people's lives, specifically in the areas of education, income and health. To learn more about the LIVE UNITED goals and mission of United Way of Williamson County visit [www.unitedway-wc.org](http://www.unitedway-wc.org) or call 512.255.6799.*

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