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News Release



United Way of Wyandotte County, Inc. P.O. Box 17-1042, Kansas City, KS 66117-0242

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2009

Wyandotte County awarded additional stimulus funds for emergency assistance

KANSAS CITY, Kan. - Wyandotte County has been awarded an additional \$63,065 in federal funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for the Emergency Food and Shelter (EFSP) National Board Program. Funds will be administered by United Way of Wyandotte County to assist the homeless and near homeless in 2009. The supplemental funds increase the total funding to Wyandotte County to more than \$247,000 for the 2009 calendar year.

The funds appropriated by Congress are to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high need areas around the country. The selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army; American Red Cross; United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; and United Way of America.

Locally, the distribution of funding is administered by United Way of Wyandotte County, which distributes to agencies that have programs providing food pantries, food kitchens, food vouchers, rent and mortgage assistance, and shelter.

Agencies applying for funds must be eligible to receive federal funds; have electronic funds transfer capabilities; and practice nondiscrimination. After the applications are received, a committee will determine which agencies receive funding and the amount to be awarded to each agency. Agencies interested in applying for ARRA Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds should contact Brandi Fisher at United Way of Wyandotte County at (913) 371-3674 or email bfisher@unitedway-wyco.org. The application deadline is Wednesday, May 20th.

Agencies currently receiving EFSP funding include Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas; Central Avenue Center of Hope; Cross-Lines Community Outreach; Economic Opportunity Foundation; Friends of Yates; Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry; Mt. Carmel Community Outreach; Salvation Army; and Wyandotte Southern Baptist Ministries.

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