

JULY 9, 2009

Grant to fund homeless programs

Wyandotte County has been awarded an additional \$31,351 in federal funds under the National Emergency Food and Shelter Program Stimulus Set-Aside to assist the homeless and near homeless in 2009, according to United Way officials.

The United Way of Wyandotte County is administering the distribution of funds to agencies that have programs for the homeless. The funding is made possible through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Only about two weeks remain to get applications in for programs for the funding, according to Cynthia Tooley, community impact manager for the United Way of Wyandotte County.

"It's a quick, quick turnaround," she said.

She said Wyandotte County's original stimulus fund for the homeless was more than \$60,000. If funds are not used here, they would be redistributed to other communities.

Programs such as emergency food and shelter, food pantries, food vouch-

ers, and mortgage assistance would qualify for the funding, she said.

Agencies may receive an application through United Way of Wyandotte County by contacting Cynthia Tooley at 913-371-3674 by July 15. Agencies applying must have electronic funds transfer capabilities. After the applications are received, a committee will determine the agencies receiving funding and the amount to be awarded to each agency.

The selection of Wyandotte County was made by a national board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency 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. The national board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high need areas around the country.