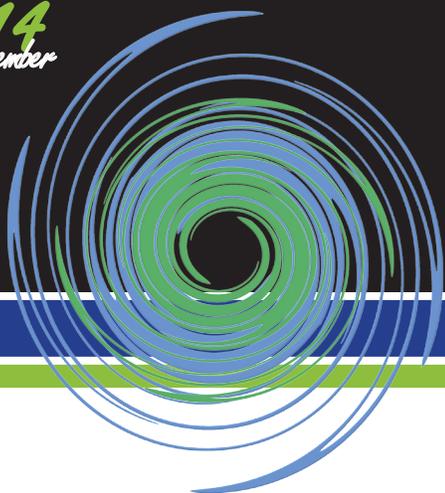


2014  
November



# Community *in Action*

...From the Barry County United Way Volunteer Center

The Barry County United Way & Volunteer Center recognizes that everyone has a gift to offer to the community. We promote volunteerism because we believe that many people are seeking ways to give back in return for the many gifts they have been given. Through recruiting and matching volunteers with opportunities, the Barry County United Way & Volunteer Center is in partnership with generous volunteers as we strive to create a better Barry County for all.

## Volunteer Spotlight Award

Each quarter the Volunteer Center will be shining a spotlight on an extraordinary volunteer within in a Barry County non-profit organization. Someone who has gone the extra mile and deserves a little extra recognition to let them know how great they are doing. We will try to "surprise" the volunteer when they are at your non-profit with a certificate of appreciation and do a write up in the Hastings Reminder to honor this volunteer. To nominate, please submit a brief narrative describing their volunteer service and impact to Morgan. The due dates for nominations are as follows for 2015:

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter January – March	December 19, 2014
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter April – June	March 27, 2015
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter July – September	June 26, 2015
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter October – December	September 25, 2015

## Police Cadet Program

We have been approached by the Hastings Police Department regarding getting their cadets involved in volunteer service monthly (10 cadets are enrolled in the program). They are looking at Sunday afternoons from Noon -3:00pm, one Sunday per month. They are not specific to the Hastings area, but do need projects large enough to keep them all busy. All of the cadets have gone through a background check with the police department. We would like to start a schedule of who is going to host these volunteers each month. Please let me know what month you would be able to host the cadets and what project you would have for them.

**LIVE UNITED**



Barry County United Way  
& Volunteer Center

**Up  
Coming**

## CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

forms due Friday,  
November 14

E-mail to Morgan or  
fax 269.945.4536

## TOYS FOR BARRY COUNTY KIDS PROGRAM

We are looking for:

- donations of NEW unwrapped gifts
  - Volunteers who are willing to help parents choose gifts
- Contact Morgan for more information.



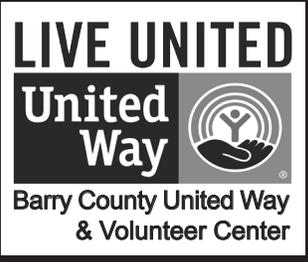
# THANK YOU

United  
Way



# for VOLUNTEERING

*Morgan Johnson*  
Volunteer Center Director  
morgan@bcunitedway.org



### Volunteer Solutions Database

In the past I have completed workshops and trainings on how to use our online database. I cannot say that I am 100% pleased with the program itself; however, it is still a great tool for those looking to volunteer. Whenever a volunteer contacts me, I always direct them to the site and we walk through it together, giving them options as to what is available, talking about how they can contact the organization they are interested in, and what steps they need to do to move forward with volunteering. Not every person who wants to volunteer contacts me directly. With the technology available, more and more community members are accessing what is available by logging onto this database themselves. Please take a moment to update your profile or to create a new one.

Below is some more information on this program:

With many different nonprofits listed on [www.bcunitedway.org](http://www.bcunitedway.org), this resource is a great place for nonprofits to get started in recruiting volunteers. The first step for non-profit organizations is to create a profile on the database listing details about the organization including their mission, services provided and contact information. After creating an agency profile, organizations can post both ongoing and one-time volunteer opportunities. By utilizing the database in this way, agencies can easily recruit volunteers and see what other organizations are doing to engage the community. With 24/7 access, the database is a great way to start the volunteer recruitment process.

This website feature is a great resource not only for non-profit organizations, but also for volunteers. For volunteers looking to become involved, the first step is to visit the website. From here, people considering volunteering can learn about the numerous volunteer opportunities currently available in Barry County and how they can start giving back to the community. The website allows each individual to create a short profile about themselves listing their interests and skills. As mentioned above, area nonprofits post opportunities that they need volunteers to help with. In-turn, volunteers can utilize the information on the website to contact the agency and begin their volunteer experience.

**"YOUR FUTURE  
IS CREATED BY WHAT  
YOU DO  
{TODAY}  
NOT TOMORROW"**

## Toys for Barry County Kids

**ACTION FIGURES**

Everything collected by Toys for Barry County Kids stays right here in Barry County. When you donate a NEW unwrapped toy to us, you are helping your friends & neighbors!

**DOLLS  
BARBIES**

**CRAFT KITS**

**TEEN GIFTS**



Call the BCUW office for more gift ideas!