

**For Immediate Release in Reminder, Banner, The Sun and News, and
Lakewood News**

Contact Person: Morgan Johnson
Barry County United Way
(269) 945-4010

Barry County EFSP funding amount announced

Barry County has been awarded federal funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program. Barry County has been chosen to receive **\$5,714.00** in State Set-Aside dollars to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the area.

The selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Council of Jewish Federations, Catholic charities, USA, National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA and United Way of America which will provide the administrative staff and function as a fiscal agent. The 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.

A local board made up of representatives of the Salvation Army, Barry County Commissioners, Hastings Area Ministerial Association, Continuum of Care, Commission on Aging and Barry County United Way will determine how the funds awarded to Barry County are to be distributed among the Emergency Food and Shelter Programs run by local service organizations in the area. The local board is responsible for recommending funds available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local governmental or private voluntary organizations chosen to receive funds must: 1) Be a non-profit; 2) Have an accounting system and conduct an annual audit; 3) Practice non-discrimination; 4) Have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs; and 5) If they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. 6) Have a D-U-N-S number and a Federal Employer Identification Number. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

Barry County has previously distributed emergency food and shelter funds with Manna's Market, Barry County United Way, Maple Valley Community Center of Hope, St. Ambrose Church, and Freeport United Methodist Church.

Barry County United Way must receive the request for funding no later than February 17, 2014. Contact Morgan Johnson for a funding application at morgan@bcunitedway.org Please mail or fax the request to: Barry County United Way: Attention Morgan Johnson, 231 South Broadway, Hastings, MI 49058 Fax number: (269) 945-4536. Further information on the program may be obtained by contacting Morgan at Barry County United Way (269) 945-4010.