

Valley United Way

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Proudly Serving the Valley Community since 1995

United Way



Valley United Way December, 2009

Mission Statement

The Corporate Volunteer Council strives to enhance the quality of life in the Valley by promoting and fostering corporate volunteerism through the sharing of ideas and information on corporate volunteer management and actions that can be driven to address issues of community concern.

All efforts performed by the CVC will be conducted to collectively embrace change and leverage diversity.



Calling all Santa's Helpers! The Valley United Way has a long list of holiday wishes from Valley agencies. With unemployment rates in the Valley nearing double digits in some towns, more families than ever are reaching out to local charities for help with food, clothing, and holiday gifts for their children.

Holiday "adopt-a-family" programs are great team-building and morale-boosting activities for employees. Many companies are foregoing department gift exchanges, choosing to help the less fortunate instead. If your company would like to help fill the wish lists of any of the following agencies, please contact Carol Anzidei at 203-926-9478 or carol.anzidei@valleyunitedway.org.

Parent Child Resource Center

- 25 families need help with holiday food and gifts

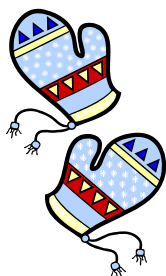
American Red Cross

- 5 families need help with holiday food and gifts

Area Congregations Together (ACT)/Spooon House

- Holiday Meal Gift Baskets
- Holiday Stockings for children and adults

Visit their website at www.act-spooner.org for lists of items requested for gift baskets and stockings.



Valley YMCA

- Giving Tree with tags for adults and children listing toys and clothing
- Non-perishable snacks and food items for 29 gentlemen in residence
- Socks, boots, gloves, hats and scarves in children and adult sizes

Salvation Army

- Food baskets, new blankets, pajamas for youth, hats and mittens
- Bell Ringers for the holiday season in front of Wal Mart, Stop & Shop and Adams Grocery Store



UPCOMING EVENTS

December Food Pantry Drives

The CVC has established a year-round collection schedule to ensure a steady supply of food to the needy. Each month, local businesses conduct food drives on their premises for the **Area Congregations Together Food Pantry**. ACT also runs Spooner House, a homeless shelter in Shelton. Companies holding drives this month are:

- Newtown Savings Bank
- Barnum Financial

Clothing Drives in December

CVC companies conduct monthly clothing drives throughout the year. Clothes are donated to **My Sister's Place** thrift shop which sells the clothing to benefit The Umbrella Domestic Violence Program and the **Helping Hands** thrift shop run by Father McKenna St. Vincent De Paul Society. Conducting drives this month:

- Iroquois Gas Transmission
- Prudential
- The McIntyre Group
- Warner Group
- NEC Infrontia & NEC Unified Solutions

November CVC Meeting – Thursday, December 17, 2009 from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., hosted by Altair Global Relocation at Two Corporate Drive – 6th Floor, Shelton. All CVC members are invited to attend.

Prudential Employees Provide Thanksgiving Meals to Local Families

Prudential Annuities associates collected, boxed, and delivered Thanksgiving meals and turkeys to 47 families identified through ACT/Spooner House, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the Valley YMCA. "We were so pleased with our success!" said Antonietta Hallet, Manager, Annuities Compliance and CVC Co-Chair. "Our associates were so very generous. We had more people participating and were able to feed many more families than last year. Our employees are the BEST!"



- Arson Productions
- Altair Global Relocation
- Baldrige Seminars Int'l
- Barnum Financial Group
- Basement Systems
- Better Packages
- BIC Corporation
- Bull's Head Printers
- CDW-G
- CG Automation Systems USA
- Calvert Safe & Lock
- Citi Bank
- Comcast
- Computershare
- Cutting Edge Communications
- DRS Consultants, Inc.
- David M. Grant Caterers
- DeDonato Building
- Emhart Teknologies
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- F.W. Serra, Inc.
- Fletcher Thompson
- Fred Ortolí Photography
- Freedom Disability
- GE International
- GVCC
- HSBC Bank, USA
- Hamworthy Peabody
- Health Net
- Hilton Garden Inn
- Holiday Inn Express
- Homewood Suites
- Iroquois Gas
- Kerite Company
- Latex International
- Market Data Retrieval
- Marks of Design, LLC
- Minuteman Press Center
- NEC
- Naugatuck Savings Bank
- Ned Miller Associates
- NewAlliance Bank
- Newtown Savings Bank
- People's United Bank
- PerkinElmer
- Pitney Bowes
- Professional Travel
- Prudential Financial, Inc.
- Regional Water Authority
- Riverview Funeral Home
- SSC, Inc.
- Sikorsky Aircraft
- T.D. Bank
- The Greenwich Workshop
- The Hartford
- The McIntyre Group
- United Illuminating
- Wachovia
- WalMart
- Warner Financial
- Webster Bank
- William Raveis Real Estate



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COMPANY OF INTEREST: Marks of Design, L.L.C.

A conversation with Kathleen "Kate" McNichols-Marks
Owner, Marks of Design, L.L.C



Give us an overview of your business, Marks of Design.

I have been a jeweler for 23 years, and opened my store, Marks of Design, on Howe Avenue in downtown Shelton 10 years ago. I have degrees in Metalsmithing and Gemology. I do all the repairs and custom work in my store, and I believe in doing everything in my power to satisfy my clients' wants and budget. Each year, my husband and I travel to Antwerp, Belgium to buy diamonds for our customers. The buying trips allow us to act as direct brokers, enabling us to provide significant cost savings to our customers. Needless to say, I am very busy – especially during the holidays, but I consider myself blessed to have a career and business that I truly love.



Tell us about your involvement with the Corporate Volunteer Council and why is it important to you?

I have been involved with the CVC for about five or six years. Every year I adopt a child for the Back to School program. My three employees and I enjoy purchasing the clothes and school supplies. We also have participated in the Harvest House by collecting canned goods, and advertising it to our customers with posters and hand-outs. Most importantly to me, I get my children involved. They have come with me in the past to sort food and help build Harvest House. My oldest child is now involved in the United Way's Youth Leadership program, and I believe her interest in community service is a result of having been exposed to volunteering at a young age. It is important to me to raise my three children to be leaders and community-minded. Our children are our future, and I believe volunteerism instills great values.

Kate Marks (left) participating in "CT Loves To Read" at a local school. In addition to her involvement with the CVC, Kate is very active with a number of other community organizations, including the GVCC, Shelton Life Publication, and Win Networking Group. She serves as a commissioner and editor of the Shelton Economic Development Corp., a corporator for the Birmingham Group, and a chairperson for the Boys and Girls Club. She was the past president, and is currently an active member on the board of directors for the Shelton-Derby Rotary Club.

CVC COLLECTION COMMITTEES:

Cell Phone Collection – Used phones for victims of domestic violence

Team Leads:
Walter Binck 922-1199 ext. 250
Wbinck@hamworthy-peabody.com
Carol Pendagast 926-0001
carolp@fwserra.com

Food Pantry – Corporate food drives to benefit area food banks

Team Lead:
Kristin Bures 929-2357
Kristin.j.bures@us.hsbc.com
Carol Pendagast 926-0001
carolp@fwserra.com

Clothing Collection – Used clothes for the Umbrella Program & St. Vincent DePaul Helping Hands of the Valley

Team Leads:
Sue Millican 925-7255
Sue_Millican@iroquois.com

Mandi Marcino 203-944-0777 ext. 241
mam@themcintyregroup.com

Notions Collection – Toiletries for the men living at the Valley YMCA

Team Lead:
Antonieta Hallet 402-1405
Antonieta.hallet@prudential.com

Caring Circle – Knitted blankets and apparel for clients at Umbrella

Team Leads:
Antonieta Hallet 402-1405
Antonieta.hallet@prudential.com

Michelle Fabozzi 944-3385
michelle.fabozzi@corporate.ge.com

Computer Collection – Refurbished equipment donated to charities

Team Lead:
Alan Tolmich 929-9746
atolmich@sbcglobal.net

Valley United Way

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CVC 2009 Co-Chairs

Dotty Cacchillo, Wal*Mart Derby
magnamo@sbcglobal.net
Antonieta Hallet, Prudential
Antonieta.hallet@prudential.com

Forward comments regarding the CVC newsletter to:

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