



EACH YEAR, UNITED WAY INVESTS IN AGENCY PROGRAMS AND LONG-TERM INITIATIVES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES. TO HELP ENSURE THAT DONATIONS REACH ESSENTIAL LOCAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES IN COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING CALGARY, UNITED WAY OF CALGARY AND AREA HAS PARTNERED WITH THE TOWNS OF CHESTERMERE, COCHRANE, HIGH RIVER, OKOTOKS AND STRATHMORE\*. THESE RELATIONSHIPS ARE REFERRED TO AS AREA COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS. EACH PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY IS GUIDED BY A LOCALLY-RUN VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE THAT ENSURES DONATIONS ADDRESS THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF THESE COMMUNITIES.

\*Programs in Airdrie are funded as part of United Way of Calgary and Area's investments.

**Here are the highlights of the 2009/2010 investment strategy in your community:**



**UNITED WAY/COCHRANE PARTNERSHIP**

**United Way/Cochrane Partnership**  
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The Cochrane partnership's funding focus is to assist families to live free from abuse, give children the skills they need to build futures they want, and help people obtain the resources they need to live dignified, satisfied lives.

*A student was placed in temporary care with Child and Family Services. While his parents worked on their issues, he was matched with a caring mentor. The youth was very withdrawn and quiet; he had little interaction with others. With the support of his mentor, he joined the basketball team and now takes part in weekly activities. The mentor is a retired police officer who has supported the youth in developing his self confidence. His mother reported that her son says he really likes his mentor and hopes that he might be "kind of tall" like him some day.*

- Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Calgary & Area – mpower program in Cochrane

**2009 FUNDED PROGRAMS:**

mpower Youth Mentoring (Big Brothers & Big Sisters Society of Calgary & Area); Cochrane and Area Child Care and Early Learning Association; Seniors On The Go (Cochrane 50 and Over Club); Supporting Youth in Need (Cochrane Youth Association/ Boys and Girls Clubs); Cochrane and Area Victim Services Volunteer; Capacity Building Through Promotion and Strategic Planning (Cochrane Society for Housing Options); School Liaison Program and Community Access Resource Program (Western Rocky View Family and Community Resource Centre)



**UNITED WAY/OKOTOKS PARTNERSHIP**

**United Way/Okotoks Partnership**  
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The Okotoks partnership's funding focus is building a stronger future for families in vulnerable situations with a focus on vulnerable families, youth at risk and seniors.

*The majority of students at St Luke's experience social, emotional, economic, legal or other challenges that place them at a high risk for dropping out. This was the case for a grade 11 student who entered St Luke's after multiple suspensions from his high school. This student was experiencing anxiety, depression and low self-esteem. A combination of family counselling, parental support, addiction counselling and committed emotional and academic support created an environment where this student thrived. This resulted in the student graduating and winning the Governor General's Award for highest grade 12 overall average.*

- Christ the Redeemer Catholic School Division, St. Luke's Community Outreach Centre

**2009 FUNDED PROGRAMS:**

Family School Liaison Officer and Behaviour Education Support Team (Foothills School Division); Healthy Moms Healthy Babies; Family Support and Respite Program (Foothills SNAPS - Special Needs Association for Parents and Siblings); Family School Liaison Officer and St. Lukes Outreach Centre (Christ the Redeemer Catholic School Division)



**UNITED WAY/HIGH RIVER PARTNERSHIP**

**United Way/High River Partnership**  
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The High River partnership's funding focus is support for stressed families, youth at risk, affordable housing and seniors.

*Calgary Catholic Immigration Society and Foothills Immigrant Services provide a part-time volunteer coordinator to support the diverse language and cultural needs of High River newcomers. One particular family had a student that was missing a lot of school, but the high school staff were having trouble communicating with them. The interpreter was able to assist the school in finding out that the family was without Alberta Health Care. When the weather turned cold the parents were afraid to send the child to school, fearing he could get ill and they would not have coverage. Because of this discovery, they were able to assist the family in getting Alberta Health Care, getting the child warmer clothing and educating the family on reporting absences from school.*

- Volunteer Program (Calgary Catholic Immigration Services and Foothills Community Immigrant Services)

**2009 FUNDED PROGRAMS**

Volunteer Program (Calgary Catholic Immigration Services, Foothills Community Immigrant Services); Newcomer Community Enrichment Program (Literacy for Life, Parent Link, Foothills Community Immigrant Services); Between Generations Program (Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Calgary and Area); High River Respite Program (Foothills SNAPS - Special Needs Association for Parents and Siblings); Healthy Moms Healthy Babies



**UNITED WAY/STRATHMORE PARTNERSHIP**

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United Way/Strathmore partnership has recently formed a brand new committee. Because of the transition, no programs were funded in 2009. However, in 2010 the partnership will be investing in the following programs:

Healthy Families; Christ the Redeemer School Division, Family School Liaison Program; Step One Support Group; Project Hope; Growing Families Society for the Growing Opportunities Program.

*Early in her second pregnancy, Lori was experiencing a severe degree of nausea and vomiting that required medication. She was also raising a toddler, and struggled to find adequate housing and meet other basic needs. During Growing Opportunities' 13 prenatal visits with Lori, staff gave Lori the support, information and advice that allowed for a healthier pregnancy. Eventually Lori delivered a healthy baby boy. During the 18 postnatal visits from the program, Growing Opportunities was also able to provide guidance and support for Lori to continue her and her children's healthy lifestyle.*

- Growing Families Society



**UNITED WAY/CHESTERMERE PARTNERSHIP**

**United Way/Chestermere Partnership**  
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Chestermere is the newest of United Way's Area Community Partnership. In 2010, the partnership will be investing in the following programs:

Chestermere Mentorship Program; Community Resource Centre Facilitator; Chestermere Regional Food Bank.



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