

United Way Partners With Chestermere

Chestermere Residents Can Now Support Their Community through United Way

April 27th, 2010 – Calgary, AB – United Way of Calgary and Area and the Town of Chestermere are proud to announce that they have partnered up to invest in the community of Chestermere.

United Way understands that social issues also exist outside the city limits, and support is needed in Calgary's surrounding communities. In order to address those needs, United Way has partnered with several towns surrounding Calgary over the past few years.

Chestermere is the newest of these partnerships, which currently exist in Cochrane, High River, Okotoks and Strathmore. Town Council and United Way have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which provides for a two year investment commitment by United Way of \$30,000 per annum into Chestermere social programs.

"By forming a partnership with United Way, the residents of Chestermere are able to help those in need in their own community," says Ruth Ramsden-Wood, President of United Way of Calgary and Area.

Each partnership is guided by a locally-run volunteer committee. In Chestermere, the committee is comprised of the town's existing Community Services Advisory Board.

This committee will identify community needs, as well as receive and allocate United Way funds. The committee is also planning to run an annual campaign to raise additional money for local programs and engage the community.

"Chestermere has grown so quickly, over recent years that our social infrastructure has had a hard time keeping up," says Patty Sproule, Community Services Director for the Town of Chestermere. "Partnering with United Way of Calgary and Area to create additional investment in social programs for Chestermere is a significant first step toward building this capacity."

Chestermere residents can get involved by joining the committee, or by encouraging their workplaces to support United Way. Residents also have the option of designating their annual United Way donation to the United Way/Chestermere Partnership.

- 30 -

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