



Working Towards our \$2.6 million Goal

Members of our community gathered at Riverside Park on September 10th to kickoff our 2008 Campaign. Mayor Karen Farbridge and Campaign Chair, Dr. Alastair Summerlee, spoke about the importance of giving to this year's campaign especially in light of economic challenges facing Guelph & Wellington. Volunteers were happy to announce this year's campaign goal - **\$2.6 million**.

This year's event was held in partnership with The Walk for Suicide Prevention, an annual event hosted by United Way funded agency The Distress Centre. Click [here](#) to learn more about The Walk and The Distress Centre.



2008 Campaign Videos Launched

Throughout the summer Suba Naganathan, University of Guelph co-op student, created several videos featuring our funded agencies. Click [here](#) to watch these videos online. A special thank you to the University of Guelph and ED Video for their sponsorship of this important project.

Community Roundtables on Seniors and Independent Living

In May, our United Way held a series of Community Roundtables with service providers and researchers to gather information about the changing needs of seniors and people requiring independent living supports in Guelph and Wellington. These three sessions yielded a wealth of information about the work that is being done locally to support people and help them remain in their homes. Click [here](#) to read more about the information gathered through these roundtables.

How United Way Donors are Making a Difference in our Community: A look at the Distress Centre of Guelph/Wellington

As mentioned above, this year's Campaign Kickoff was held in conjunction with The Walk for Suicide Prevention. The Walk, an initiative led by United Way funded agency The Distress Centre, was held to recognize World Suicide Prevention Day and spread awareness around the issues of suicide in our community. Click [here](#) to visit the Distress Centre website and learn more about the work that United Way donors are making possible.



Loaned Representatives Out and About

Our Loaned Representatives are busy supporting the hundreds of workplace campaigns currently being held across our community. "Loaned Reps" are individuals loaned to the United Way from local organizations for the duration of Campaign. Thank you to this year's Loaned Reps and the organizations sponsoring them in 2008:

Angela Hollen – The Co-operators
 Mavis Vet – OMAFRA
 Ashley Bourner – University of Guelph

Research Profile: Seniors, Demographics, Changing Trends in Guelph & Wellington

Research Highlights:

Click [here](#) to learn more about our community.



University of Guelph Kicks Off Campaign Setting Largest Goal to Date

Many workplace campaigns are kicking off across Guelph & Wellington County. The largest campaign in our area, the University of Guelph, kicked off their campaign on September 25th announcing their outstanding goal of \$440,000. Congratulations and good luck to the University and all other workplaces running campaigns this month!

Research Profile: Child Care and Early Learning in Guelph & Wellington County

Research Highlights:

- In 2006, 78% of women in Guelph and Wellington, with children living at home, were working.
- Despite nearly doubling the number of licensed child care spaces for toddlers in Guelph and Wellington, there are only 15 child care spaces for every 100 children ages birth to 6 in Guelph and Wellington.
- 2006 Early Development Instrument (EDI) scores for children in Guelph and Wellington are highest for physical health and well-being and lowest for communication skills and general knowledge.

Click [here](#) to learn more about our community.

October is United Way Month at Linamar

Throughout the month of October, each of the over twenty Linamar facilities across Guelph will be holding United Way Campaigns. Last year, Linamar companies raised over \$200,000 collectively. Thank you to Linamar and it's employees!

We Believe in Our Community!

Despite the economic challenges facing Guelph & Wellington we believe that we can reach our goal. We believe in our community! We believe in possibility!

There are many ways that YOU can get involved:

- If your company runs a workplace campaign, participate in the payroll deduction plan. This is the easiest and most effective way to make a significant difference in our community.
- Become a Leadership donor – A pledge of \$1,000 or more distinguishes you as a United Way Leader.
- Make a one time donation through cash, cheque or credit card payment. You can also make monthly donations through pre-authorized payments from your bank account or credit card.
- Give from home – contribute to the United Way campaign by mail or log on to www.unitedwayguelph.com/donate.



*Look forward to future issues delivered to your inbox regularly. Please e-mail us your feedback or suggestions, we'd like to hear from us! If you'd rather not receive **Community Connections**, please click on the "unsubscribe" link at the bottom of this e-mail.*



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85 Westmount Road • Guelph Ontario N1H 5J2
T: 519.821.0571 • F: 519.821.7847 • E: info@unitedwayguelph.com • www.unitedwayguelph.com

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