Way of Elgin. Don't forget to add lbosley@uwelgin.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may <u>unsubscribe</u> if you no longer wish to receive our emails.





## THANK YOU to all our 2017 Investment Committee Volunteers

Even though we celebrated Volunteer Week in April, this month we wanted to give an extra **THANK YOU** to our Investment Panel volunteers who have spent the last six weeks reviewing applications and asking the tough questions to determine which programs best fit with United Way of Elgin's goal to create a well-educated community prepared for success.



The Education Committee meets to discuss program proposals.



The Strong & Secure Families Committee meets to discuss program proposals

This citizen's review process has always been at the heart of United Way of Elgin's work. This year, our committees were a great mix of seasoned and new volunteers from the community with experience and expertise in the issues that matter most in the Elgin area. Volunteers spent around 500 hours reading, evaluating, and discussing proposals to arrive at their funding recommendations for 2017-2019. Their recommendations will go before the UWE Board of Directors at the end of May. Funding decisions will be announced in June.

## 2017 Letter Carriers' Food Drive is Saturday, May 13



throughout the year!

Celebrating its 25th year, the <u>Letter Carriers'</u>
<u>Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive</u> aims to break last year's record haul of 80 million pounds of food--and there is a very easy way to help!

Just leave a bag of non-perishable food by your mailbox on Saturday, May 13 (the earlier the better). Your letter carrier will do the rest! Locally collected donations will go to a local food pantry or bank--you can call your post office to find out exactly which facility will receive your donation.

Food banks are often running low by the time summer rolls around--after the popular donating season around the holidays. This is a great chance for you to help make sure our local food pantries stay well stocked

# Kane County Guide to Community Services

Where can you get rental assistance in Elgin? If you live in Aurora, where can you find affordable child care? Every day, many people in Kane County find themselves in need of health or human services assistance. It can be challenging to figure out what agency serves your community and how to get help. That's where the Kane County Guide to Community Services can help.

The Kane County Guide to Community Services is available 24/7 by visiting <a href="https://www.kanecountyguide.org">www.kanecountyguide.org</a>. A web-based search engine, this tool allows people to search for their specific need--from rent to food, child care to legal help--and narrow down the agencies based on their home zip code. Residents no longer have to call 20 different agencies to find the one that can help--the guide will provide a list of agencies who can serve YOU, along with their contact information, service list, and even what paper work you need to have available when you call for assistance.

So next time someone you know is looking for help, direct them to the guide! We also have a stock of bookmarks that are perfect to keep on hand at your workplace--just let us know and we'll get you a stack.

# Elgin Partnership for Early Learning Spring Collaboration

The Elgin Partnership for Early Learning invites everyone to their Spring Collaboration Meeting. Attendees will watch the documentary "The Raising of America" and participate in a discussion with a panel of experts.



The event is Friday, May 12, 8:30-11:30 am in the Seigle Auditorium at Elgin Community

College (1700 Spartan Drive, Building E). If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to EPEL Director <u>Amber Peters</u>.

# Agency 101: Family Service Association of the Greater Elgin Area

In an effort to keep our donors and friends more up-to-date on United Way of Elgin's work, we're introducing you to the programs your gifts help support. Our hope is that you'll take pride in knowing that your one gift to United Way of Elgin helps people in each of our 23 partner programs.



United Way of Elgin has been funding Family Service Association since 1932-- that's 85 years of supporting mental health in our community.

Currently, UWE funds the Youth & Family Counseling program, which provides therapy services to youth AND their

families, stabilizing their home lives and maximizing their ability to function on a day-to-day basis. Therapy is provided in-office, at home if needed, and now in several schools throughout SD U-46.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and FSA has a timely message for those seeking mental health care. Learn more about their services and how to get in touch with the agency <a href="here.">here.</a>



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