



United Way
of Southwest Oklahoma

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Media Release

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United Way Starts the Funds Distribution Process

Lawton, Okla – United Way of Southwest Oklahoma held training on Tuesday, April 1st, 2014 for panels of community volunteers, who will have a great impact on community investments by serving on the Funds Distribution Committee. The meeting was facilitated by Teresa Abram, the Funds Distribution Committee Chair, and John Noel, Board President of the United Way of Southwest Oklahoma.

The mission of the Funds Distribution Committee is to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power within our community. “The fund distribution process is a critical component of the United Way mission. We rely on community volunteers to evaluate agency applications and make funding recommendations,” said Abram.

The panels will review agencies’ applications and conduct agency site visits, taking place April 7 – 17. “As we move into the Community Impact model of funding, the programs will be evaluated on outcomes, rather than outputs,” said Tia Reed, Community Collaborations Director.

Each panel will assess agency-funded programs and services through the established criteria, including: documented need for the program and its impact on the community; level of quality services and its impact on clients; achieved real results; and operational efficiency to recommend a financially responsible funding level. The panel will also address previous panels’ recommendations, comments, and concerns, and develop recommendations to improve services.

Panel recommendations are due April 21st, 2014. The panel chairs will meet to discuss and develop recommendations for funding to the United Way Board of Directors. The funds will be distributed to programs which fall under the United Way Community Impact model focusing on Education, Income, Health and Basic Needs. The Board of the United Way of Southwest Oklahoma will approve the final funding recommendations during the Board Meeting on May 28th, 2014.

About the United Way of Southwest Oklahoma:

The United Way funds 19 local agencies and their various programs that address community issues. The United Way is a charitable organization and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the local community to fulfill its mission. For more information, please visit www.uwswok.org.

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