

United Way of Southwest Oklahoma

Address: 1116 SW A Ave Lawton, OK 73501

Media Release

April 7, 2014

United Way Contact: Aneta Veedmont (580) 355-0218

United Way Recognizes National Volunteer Week in Partnership with the Lawton Police and Fire Departments

Lawton, Okla – In recognition of the National Volunteer Week, taking place April 6-11, the United Way of Southwest Oklahoma in partnership with the Lawton Police Department and Lawton Fire Department, has launched a "Giving Back and Volunteering Week". This volunteerism promotes engaging employee volunteers from both departments in 'hands-on' projects benefitting the local United Way partner agencies.

During the National Volunteer Week the city volunteers will dedicate their time and skills to our partner agencies. These are the organizations that rely heavily on volunteers, people who regularly dedicate their time, talent, and commitment to serving and helping others.

"Our members of the Lawton Fire Department have an opportunity to see what these organizations consist of, and are in need of, by spending a few hours during the National Volunteer Week helping the United Way partner agencies," said Captain Mike McDaniel from the Lawton Fire Station #5.

The National Volunteer Week is about inspiring, recognizing, and encouraging local people to seek creative ways to engage in the community. "We were very excited and happy that we were approached by the both departments in order to help them find community projects to engage in," said Tia Reed, Community Collaborations Director at United Way.

The volunteer commitment plays a significant role in promoting an altruistic community culture that centers on helping our neighbors. By taking action, working together, and participating in this initiative, the Lawton Police and Fire Department volunteers are truly Living United and making a difference in our community.

A list of the proposed dates and projects is attached.

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 <u>mmw.uwswok.org</u>.