



United Way  
of Greater Battle Creek

# NEWS RELEASE

---

## *United Way of Greater Battle Creek*

**For Immediate Release:** Monday, June 01, 2009  
**Contact:** Teresa Osborne  
Director of Public Relations  
269.962.9538 cell: 269.209.8389

### **Calhoun County Local Board Awards Federal EFSP Funds**

More than \$58,000 was recently awarded by the Calhoun County Local Board (#4656-00) to area agencies through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

The EFSP was created in 1983 to supplement and expand the work of local social service agencies, both nonprofit and governmental, in an effort to help people with economic (not disaster-related) emergencies. The EFSP funding is open to all organizations helping hungry and homeless people, to be used to supplement feeding, sheltering and rent/mortgage and utility assistance efforts.

United Way of Greater Battle Creek served as the convener of the Local Board which is made up of a body of volunteers dedicated to reviewing applications and recommending funding allocations to eligible organizations, as specified under the National Board guidelines. This year's Local Board was chaired by Michelle Frank, a member of the local Jewish community.

The Local Board met on Monday, May 26, 2009 to determine Local Recipient Organizations (LRO) from eligible applications. Recipient agencies of the \$58,902 include: Albion Interfaith Ministries, American Red Cross, Community Action, Lutheran Social Services, S.A.F.E. Place, The Salvation Army, The Haven of Rest Ministries, Tri-County Labor Agency and Washington Heights Community Ministries.

"In a year when there is so much uncertainty surrounding fundraising efforts and cutbacks, the additional EFSP funds are a huge blessing," said Local Board Chair, Michelle Frank.

The distribution of EFSP-ARRA funds came after the initial distribution of EFSP Phase 27 funds which were awarded during a Local Board meeting on February 23, 2009. At which time \$126,289 was distributed to the following LRO's: Community Action, S.A.F.E. Place, The Haven of Rest Ministries, The Salvation Army and Tri-County Labor Agency.

In total \$185,191 was awarded in Calhoun County during fiscal year 2009 in an effort to provide additional assistance to those who are facing economic emergencies.

For more information on accessing available services in Calhoun County contact the 211 Call Center by simply dialing 2-1-1 on your phone.

-end-

United Way of Greater Battle Creek's mission is to mobilize the caring power of our community to Advance the Common Good by measurably improving lives.

For more information, visit United Way's office at 34 W. Jackson St., Ste. 4B, Battle Creek MI, 49017, call 269.962.9538 or visit [www.unitedwaybattlecreek.org](http://www.unitedwaybattlecreek.org).