

Statement Regarding UWOC Funding Priority

Objective: Primary focus should be on the next generation of Ontario County citizens.

Philosophical Statement: United Way of Ontario County will make Ontario County a better place to live by contributing to the development of its children into healthy, better educated, secure, and community-minded citizens.

The above statement was adopted by the Board of Directors based on the 2009 Ontario County Needs Assessment. See below for more information.

2009 ONTARIO COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The following were identified as some of the top priority needs in the Community Needs Assessment related to the areas of children and youth:

- Availability of safe, affordable housing
- Reduced drug and alcohol-related crimes
- Availability of before and after-school care for children
- Affordable child care
- Support for children living in poverty
- Youths in trouble with the law
- Help for abused and neglected children and their families

2010 FUNDING PRIORITIES

The second highest unmet need in Ontario County identified in the Community Needs Assessment was:

Assistance for low income households for heat, fuel and utilities.

In 2010 United Way put out a request for proposals to all not-for-profits throughout the county looking for programs to address this need. As a result, two new programs were funded for the 2010/2011 funding year. Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes received funds to assist with the payment of heat, fuel and utility bills for low income families. Bishop Sheen received funding to assist low income families by insulating water heaters, basement walls, wrapping pipes - offering a long term fix.

FUTURE FUNDING PRIORITIES: YOUTH = OUR FUTURE

Our mission is to magnify and focus the power of community resources to address our most pressing social needs. Based on the information collected in the Community Needs Assessment, Youth will be our future funding priority. UWOC will be adopting the Blueprint for Change: Youth. We will be identifying evidence based programs that address the most pressing needs facing our youth today so that your donated dollars will have a measurable impact on our community.