

United Way of Walla Walla announces

Helpline, YMCA and YWCA were the top dollar recipients after a campaign that raised \$436,177.

By SHEILA HAGAR
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WALLA WALLA — United Way of Walla Walla has announced allocations to a number of local agencies following its most recent annual campaign, which raised \$436,177.

Of that, \$399,522 was eligible for disbursement and

administrative costs, "and most of that stays right here," said Christy Lieuallen, executive director.

So far the agency has awarded \$240,000. However, \$11,000 of the total amount raised was meant for the YWCA Ice Chalet, which has since closed. "The board expects to reallocate that money," Lieuallen said.

This year, grants were made based on a number of new factors, particularly evidence of effectiveness, said Kathryn Barron, allocations chair. "By focusing on what we were going to do

with the money, instead of simply programs themselves, we did our process differently," she said. Applicants had to show short-term and long term-outcomes. We did site visits to see where the programs were going to be implemented and who would be affected by it."

Doing so allowed United Way reviewers to stand in donors' shoes and consider what targets dollars could hit hardest, she added.

Based on the reviewers' recommendations, the United Way board chose to fund the following

allocations to local agencies

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programs:

- Helpline, to help staff and volunteers connect low-income clients with services including rental assistance, transportation and food vouchers — \$39,000.
- YMCA, Community Center for Youth, support for at-risk middle- and high-school students with supervised evening educational social activities — \$24,000.
- Children's Home Society of Washington's Home Team program, for volunteer mentors to assist parents in improving parenting techniques — \$18,500.
- Valle Lindo's academic Fun

Club and summer camp, to provide high-quality homework help and summer camp close to home. — \$18,500.

- Catholic Charities Spokane, Walla Walla office, to employ a licensed mental health professional to counsel low-income clients not covered by Medicaid — \$15,000.
- Walla Walla Community Hospice palliative care program, support and care for individuals with terminal illness and their families — \$13,000.
- Walla Walla Senior Center,

Senior meal programs benefit

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- Senior Round Table meal program, Meals on Wheels and group feeding for low-income people and vulnerable clients — \$12,000.
- YWCA, safe child care for low-income children at My Friend's House and Adventure Club — \$12,000.
- YWCA domestic violence shelter, support for women and children made homeless by domestic violence — \$12,000.
- Camp Fire USA, child care after school hours at four area elementary schools — \$11,000.
- Salvation Army of Walla Walla, direct emergency

aid to families in greatest need — \$8,000.

- Blue Mountain Action Council pro bono legal help for low income clients — \$7,500.
- American Red Cross Blue Mountain Chapter, disaster readiness and volunteer training — \$7,000.
- Friends of Children of Walla Walla, support for weekly meetings with adult mentor and child — \$5,700.
- Friends of Children of Walla Walla, school-based mentoring program matching adults with children — \$5,100.
- Latino Club Explorer, support for volunteering

and college preparedness efforts for students in Walla Walla High School's Latino Club — \$5,000.

- Lillie Rice Center, employment support for adults living with developmental disabilities — \$5,000.
- Blue Mountain Action Council adult literacy, matching volunteers with adults seeking to learn to read — \$4,550.
- Blue Mountain Heart to Heart, wraparound support services for HIV-positive clients — \$3,000.
- Girl Scouts of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, camp and other scholarships — \$200.