

7 Steps to a Successful Campaign

## Harvey County United Way

# 7 STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN

#### STEP ONE: Plan, Plan, Plan

- A. Evaluate Past Performance
- Participation percent, average pledge per employee
- Check with past coordinators for history
- · Look for areas of opportunity to improve on previous year

#### B. Set Your Campaign Goal

- Employee pledge total, corporate gift, special events
- Be realistic
- C. Meet With Top Management
- Review history and potential for pledge growth
- Share your plan with those who can lend special support
- Ask for support from the top

#### STEP TWO: Campaign Team

- A. Recruit the Best Team
- Seek out enthusiastic volunteers who are respected by peers
- Use those who have United Way or agency involvement
- Be sure to have representation from various departments
- B. Training and Team Role/Responsibilities
- Set individual responsibilities, assign tasks and activity leads
- Train the team (call on United Way staff!!!)
- Let management know who is on the team
- C. Set Campaign Schedule
- Set a realistic schedule with dates and deadlines
- Decide type of campaign (one day, one week, multi-week, multi-month)
- Explore incentives for pledging or participation

#### **STEP THREE: Educate**

A. Promote and Publicize the United Way Mission Across your Organization

- Provide information 1-3 weeks ahead of asking for the pledge
- Posters, flyers, table tents, newsletters, electronic signs in break rooms, co-worker stories
- B. Communicate Your Goal
- Let everyone know the goal you hope to reach (compare to last year)
- C. Use United Way Resources
- Professional staff

#### • Speakers

### **STEP FOUR: Execution**

- A. Work the Plan!
- Have fun!!
- Be visible at the United Way Kickoff
- Plan a company-wide kickoff: from picnic for hundreds to a box of donuts for 5
- Personal presence and/or letter of endorsement from CEO, top managers and respected peers
- Keep presentations brief and to the point
- Maintain energy from start to finish of the campaign
- B. Make the "Ask"
- Do not twist arms!
- Be sure everyone has an opportunity to participate in campaign
- Solicitations may be total group, small groups or individuals
- Special letters requesting support
- Use the campaign brochure
- Encourage leadership level (\$750+) giving

#### STEP FIVE: Report the Results

- A. Share the Good News!
- Tabulate the results and report out regularly
- Thermometers or special in-house public measurement of percent-of-goal to let everyone know where the company stands

#### STEP SIX: Say Thanks!

- A. Thank All Investors
- Potential personal letter from CEO/Manager recognizing their pledges and participation
- Thank you celebration (breakfast, lunch, reception)
- Announce final results
- B. Thank Campaign Team and Volunteers
- Recognize all who made it happen behind the scenes
- CEO note or event for "the team" for going above-and-beyond

#### **STEP SEVEN: Wrap Up**

A. Planning for the Next Campaign

- Host a wrap up meeting to review your campaign
- Make notes of the good-bad-ugly
- Keep a copy of everything: minutes, flyers, letters, etc.
- Create a notebook/folder to be passed along to the next team
- Pat yourself on the back!!