

GREAT THINGS  
HAPPEN WHEN YOU  
LIVE UNITED



**GIVE**



**ADVOCATE**



**VOLUNTEER**

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## A Family Flowershop and Keepsakes

We would like to apologize for misnaming in last month's newsletter. UWBC would like to give a huge thank you to **A Family Flowershop & Keepsakes!** They donated beautiful flowers for our volunteer appreciation luncheon last

Dear UWBC Friend,

The month of June has showed our community knows how to answer when need calls. With volunteers attending events like Days of Action to help others, or the generosity of our donors, United Way of Brazoria County just wants to say:

Thank you!

United, we give. United, we live.

Sincerely,

United Way of Brazoria County

## Congratulations to AmeriCorps, Volunteers of the Quarter

month.

If you are interested in ordering or visiting their flowershop location you can contact them at:

1999 East Mulberry St.  
Angleton TX 77515  
# (979) 849-4400



## Brazoria County Cooling Stations



Keeping cool in the summer months in Brazoria County is essential to staying healthy. As the summer temperatures continue to rise, the risk of health problems for infants, elderly, and those with respiratory illness greatly increases.

As a solution, United Way of Brazoria County and ActionS, Inc. of Brazoria County have partnered with the Brazoria County Library System, Gulf Coast Auto and Brazoria County Transit to create cooling stations throughout the county. Cooling stations provide an air-conditioned environment where



Ten AmeriCorps's members arrived in Brazoria County at the beginning of April this year. The team, ages ranging from 18-24, collaborated with United Way of Brazoria County to rebuild Holiday Lakes from the devastating June 2016 flood. "We've repaired a total of 6 homes so far. We have gained so many skills in construction, disaster recovery, youth development and food security since arriving in Brazoria County." Said AmeriCorps's Team Leader, Hannah Bailey. This group of members has done so much for the Holiday Lake's homes, and their volunteer service doesn't stop there.

This team, all from outside Texas, has put in service hours throughout our county. They have helped out at the Brazoria County Dream Center, Brazosport Cares, and even the City of Danbury following the April 2017 flood. AmeriCorps worked on fifteen homes in the Danbury area, and continue to put more hours into homes affected by flooding. "I would say we have spent approximately 30-40 hours per week working on homes throughout the round." Said Jessica Houston, AmeriCorps Member.

United Way of Brazoria County deeply appreciates the work these ten AmeriCorps members have put into our community. They have shown such selflessness and have set a great example of what it means to be a volunteer. "The team truly appreciates the hospitality and generosity that the community has shown us. The work we are doing has been a very humbling experience and the team will look back on it with fondness," said Hannah Bailey. This team's work at Holiday Lakes, as well as other places, has pushed for a speedy restoration.

We asked some members what they took away from this volunteer experience, and they had great stories to share. AmeriCorps member, Julia Siminitus, shared, "I learned about interior and exterior home repairs and construction techniques. This has allowed me to gain a greater appreciation of the disaster relief and recovery process."

Many AmeriCorps members were taught powerful lessons from working with disaster situations. They saw how people were pushed out of their homes and the overall devastation. "Besides my newly learned construction skills, I have a whole new view of the devastating effects of a flood and what it can do to a family." Stated AmeriCorps's team member, Jacob Costello.

We are glad the members had a great learning experience while here in Brazoria County. UWBC wishes them the best as they prepare to leave this July. We have enjoyed partnering with them through their service. Every one of these young adults has a bright future in the volunteer community.

residents can escape the heat. Gulf Coast Auto is sponsoring free bottles of water at all cooling station, and Brazoria County Connect Transit will provide free transportation on a fixed route in the Brazosport area.

Between July 1 and September 30, the Brazoria County Library System will open its doors for those that need relief from the heat. Residents may take advantage of the cooling stations when the heat index is predicted to be 100 degrees or higher Monday through Saturday from noon until 5:00 p.m.

Residents can catch Brazoria County Connect Transit for free in Angleton, Clute, Freeport, and Lake Jackson and let the driver know they would like to ride to the nearest library. Drivers will provide a pass and a librarian will stamp the pass to ensure a ride back home.

Outside of the Brazosport area, residents of 60 years or more who need transportation to cooling stations may call ActionS, Inc. at (979) 849-6132 for availability.



### Macy's Charity Challenge



If you are interested in giving back to the community through volunteering for a UWBC program, please contact Gloria Luna, [gluna@uwbc.org](mailto:gluna@uwbc.org), or call our office at [979.849.9402](tel:979.849.9402)

### Days of Action



On June 23rd, United Way of Brazoria County participated in Days of Action alongside some of our corporate partners. Days of Action is a community wide volunteer opportunity allowing community partners, companies, and volunteers to give back. This is an annual event that mobilizes the caring power of volunteers to make a meaningful impact in more than 400 communities around the world.

This year we decided to put all our combined efforts into one location, The Family Crisis Shelter in Oyster Creek. We had 67 volunteers come out to Family Crisis Shelter in hopes that we could update their facility for them



Macy's is hosting a fundraising competition designed to multiply the impact of donations.

The United Way of Brazoria County will compete to win cash grants provided by Macy's (up to \$300,000.00)!

With a donation of \$10.00 or more, you'll receive a Macy's Shop for a Cause savings pass valid in-store or online for great savings across the store as a Thank You from Macy's.

The Challenge launches on July 11th and runs through August 9th. Lets see if we can generate enough to win the \$300,000.00!

Our United Way of Brazoria County Charity Challenge fundraising page has been created. Please click on the link to check it out!

<https://www.crowdrise.com/unity-of-brazoria-county1>

Please donate and ask all of your supporters to donate using this link.

If you are interested in joining or want more information, contact Davis Gilbert, [dgilbert@uwbc.org](mailto:dgilbert@uwbc.org), or call our office at [979.849.9402](tel:979.849.9402).

**Last Call Out to Campaign Award Winners**

to better serve their families. Our 67 volunteers applied fresh coats of paint to houses, tended to flower beds, and updated the overall appearance of the facility. In total, our partners donated more than \$8,000 to the shelter with a grand total of 336 service hours.

Our sponsors for this event include **BASF**, **First State Bank**, **Zachry Group**, and the **Catholic Daughters**. Our volunteers consisted of members from the **City of Freeport**, **First State Bank**, **Norrell Construction Inc.**, **JVIC**, **Zachry Group**, **Chevron Phillips Chemical**, **The Dow Chemical Company**, and the **Catholic Daughters**. Days of Action would not be possible if it were not for our corporate partners who are committed to bettering our community through their service.



See the entire UWBC Days of Action pictures on Flickr by clicking the button above.



## Zachry Presentation Series



The Zachry Presentation Series kicked off this June. Organizations were taught how to further their skills in presenting and speaking to influence others. The instructor, Jeri Gibbs, did a fantastic job teaching our community partners how to present in large settings and guided how to



June continues to see us deliver Employee Campaign Awards around the county. UWBC staff have worked hard to meet with each of our 2016 Campaign Workplaces, and we would like to acknowledge all of our award recipients of the month of June:

- BASF
- Boys & Girls Club of Brazoria County
- Fluor Corporation

Thank you, Employee Campaign Workplaces, and ECLs! If you are interested in hosting a United Way Employee Campaign in your workplace, contact Susan Cooman, [scooman@uwbc.org](mailto:scooman@uwbc.org), or call our office at 979.849.9402



Click the button above to view the full 2016 Employee Campaign Award album on Flickr!



professionally speak to influence.

This series was attended by organizations such as [Brazoria County Dream Center](#), [Brazoria County Alliance for Children](#), [Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council](#), [BACH : Early Childhood Intervention](#), [Communities In Schools - Texas Joint Venture](#), [Bay Area Council Boy Scouts of America](#), [Adult Reading Center](#), [Counseling Connections for Change, Inc.](#), [Junior Achievement of Brazoria County, Inc.](#), [Boys & Girls Club of Brazoria County](#), [The Salvation Army, Freeport Corps.](#)

Check out our Flickr album featuring [The Zachry Group](#) Presentation Series at [Brazosport College!](#)



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