

## Brittany Solomon

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**From:** United Way of Blair County <mshildt@unitedwayofblaircounty.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 1:36 PM  
**To:** Brittany Solomon  
**Subject:** How Will You LIVE UNITED?



**LIVE UNITED**

United Way  
of Blair County

December 2015



from United Way of Blair County  
and  
Family Resource Center



**GIVE**



**ADVOCATE**



**VOLUNTEER**

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### Thank You from Toasty Toddler

To date, 500 children have been assisted this year by the Toasty Toddler Program through the Family Resource Center at the United Way of Blair County. Each year the Toasty Toddler Program has wonderful businesses, agencies, churches, schools, and civic groups as well as many unnamed community members who collect and donate. This year's participants include: UPMC Altoona; Allegheny Highland Association of Realtors; Altoona Sunrise Rotary; Altoona Area Public Library; Altoona Housing Authority; Bellwood-Antis Public Library;

## Week of the Young Child

A planning meeting will be held on January 7 from 10 to 11 am for the Week of the Young Child Celebration scheduled for April 16. The celebration is a collaborative Free Fair, provided by Blair County agencies, individuals, clubs, and businesses concerned with the education, health and welfare of young children and their families. Anyone interested in helping to organize the event is invited to attend.

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### SAVE THE DATE!

#### January 18, 2016

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Mini Day of Service.

#### January 29, 2016

Jeans & Teams

#### February 2016

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program Opens for Appointments

#### February 27, 2016

Glass Slipper Project-Prom Gown Distribution

#### March 18, & March 19, 2016

Glass Slipper Project-Prom Gown Distribution

#### April 7, 2016

4th Annual Laugh United at the Blair County Convention Center

#### April 16, 2016

Week of the Young Child

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### We Appreciate You!



**We at United Way of Blair County truly appreciate your continued**

Blair County Children, Youth and Families; Blair County Court House employees; Blair County Drug and Alcohol Partnership; Blair Medical Associates; Faith United Church of Christ; Family, Career and Community Leaders of America-Altoona Area High School Chapter; Hicks United Methodist Church; Home Nursing Agency-Nurse Family Partnership Nurses and WIC; Howard Hanna Realtors; Kohl's Cares for Kids; Penn DOT Engineering District 9-0; Penn-Mont Academy; Penn State Altoona Development and Alumni Relations Office; Reliance Bank; Remax; Smith Transport; Wells Fargo Advisors; The Hite Company; Lakemont Park; and numerous individuals who donated items and time to make the program a success.

The Family Resource Center would like to express its most sincere thanks to all businesses and individuals who donated time, money, or items to the Toasty Toddler program.



### 5th Annual Jeans & Teams

United Way of Blair County will be hosting their 5th annual Jeans & Teams event Friday, January 29, 2016. Blair County businesses are encouraged to allow employees to dress in jeans and their favorite team apparel in exchange for a \$5.00 donation.

Proceeds raised through Jeans & Teams help support 30+ local human service agencies that address the needs of our community: education, financial stability, health, and emergency disaster relief.

If businesses are unable to participate on January 29th, we encourage them to choose another date in January or February to hold their Jeans & Teams day.

#### Three Easy Steps to Participate:

1. Go to [www.unitedwayofblaircounty.org/Jeans&Teams](http://www.unitedwayofblaircounty.org/Jeans&Teams) to download the registration form along with other Jeans & Teams supplies.
2. Notify your employees of the date and how to participate.

**support in our outreach efforts. It's because of generous, kind people like you who choose to make a difference in your community that we are able to Live United. None of our efforts would be possible without you.**

**Thank you  
for choosing to  
Live United!**

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**V.I.T.A**  
**FREE TAX PREPARATION**  
**Where free is really free!**

United Way of Blair County and the IRS have joined together once again to provide federal, state and local income tax assistance to income-eligible residents in Blair County through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Certified IRS volunteers are available at the United Way of Blair County office to prepare tax returns for Blair County residents earning \$54,000 per year or less. Returns are prepared free of charge for eligible residents.

We are now accepting appointments for Wednesdays during the following hours:  
10:00am-2:00pm and  
5:45-8:15pm.

Appointments will be held beginning February 3, 2016 and run through April 13, 2016

For best selection of appointment times, please schedule early.

For more information or to

3. Collect proceeds from Jeans & Teams participants and submit to United Way of Blair County.

We encourage you to submit photos from your Jeans & Teams day to Brittany Solomon, Development Director (bsolomon@unitedwayofblaircounty.org) to share on our Facebook page and website.

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**Laugh United Sponsorship  
Opportunity**



United Way of Blair County's 4th Annual Laugh United signature event will be held Thursday, April 7, 2016. Laugh United is an evening of comedy with performances by the very funny local group Rail City Improv and featuring opener Larry XL and headliner Billy Ray Bauer. The event also includes a meal and cash bar.

Sponsorships from \$500 to \$5,000 are now available. Any business interested in becoming a sponsor for our 4th Annual Laugh United event should contact Brittany Solomon, Development Director at (814) 944-0884 ext. 308 or bsolomon@unitedwayofblaircounty.org.

To assure your business will be included in promotional materials as noted for each sponsorship level, please contact us by January 31, 2016.



**Parents as Teachers**

The Family Resource Center continues to provide the evidence-based home visiting program, Parents as Teachers. Families with children prenatally to kindergarten entry are eligible for the program which focuses on parent-child interaction, development centered parenting, and family well-being. Families are visited twice per month and have an opportunity to attend a family group connection once monthly. In addition, children receive developmental screenings and families receive information and referrals which suit their needs. To date, 60 families with 98 children have received services in Parents as Teachers this year.

schedule an appointment please contact United Way of Blair County at (814) 944-0884.

**Doing your own taxes this year and don't need an appointment? You can still file for free.**



### **Free Tax Preparation**

**Maximize your refund this year!**

Easy. Free. Tax Help You Can Trust.  
Earn less than \$60,000 in 2015?  
File state and federal taxes for  
**FREE.**

Save over **\$200** on your tax preparation fees.

For more information visit: <http://www.myfreetaxes.com>

For more information or to enroll, please call 814-941-7711.

### **Make Parenting a Pleasure**

The Family Resource Center at United Way of Blair County is offering an 8 week parenting class, entitled Make Parenting a Pleasure, on Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 3 pm from January 20th to March 16th; a snow day is built into the program.

Make Parenting a Pleasure is a research based, evidenced-informed, comprehensive, group-based, positive parenting curriculum for stressed parents of children. This curriculum is presented by professional parent educators and lasts 8 weeks, 2 hours per week.

Parents learn:

- The importance of taking care of themselves so they can better care for their children;
- Practical stress management and communication skills;
- Effective parenting skills and positive approaches to discipline.

For more information or to enroll, please call (814) 941-7711.

## **2015-2016 CORPORATE DONORS**

United Way of Blair County would like to thank its 2015-2016 campaign corporate donors. Donations to the United Way of Blair County campaign are used to support impact grants that are awarded to local non-profit, human service programs that address the needs of our community. Thank you for choosing to **LIVE UNITED!**

## **UNITED LEADER**



## UNITED PARTNER

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Altoona First Saving Bank  
Blair Companies  
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