



American Federation of Government Employees Local 1594, AFL-CIO

AFGE Local 1594
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October 6, 2008

Dear AFGE Member,

While America's labor movement mobilizes **Turn Around America**, a positive change for working America's agenda in 2008, we must also work to assist those Working Families left behind in our ever challenging economy. The spiraling costs of affordable housing, bank foreclosures, education, food, healthcare, fuel / transportation and utilities cost, coupled with the downsizing in our economy have left many working families struggling to preserve their piece of the *American Dream*.

For over 60 years Labor's Community Services network has worked in national and local community-based partnerships with United Way, a relationship that has provided assistance to countless working families in compromise. The daily work of 240 local United Way-Community Services Labor Liaisons and 20 labor community services agencies is made possible by United Way funding. Your local United Way funding also supports the work of your local United Way-Community Services Labor Liaison, George Guthrie, who provides important resources to working families in our area during times of adversity.

Members of the Tampa Bay Region Community have been strong, loyal supporters of our local United Way Community Campaign. Together your local United Way along with Labor organizations, their union members, and our AFL-CIO Community Services program know how to build stronger, healthier and more compassionate communities.

In response to the growing economic crisis in America, United Way is partnering in new initiatives to ensure that funds contributed through United Way will have a real, positive impact on the lives of those in need in our local communities. United Way works to encourage adequate funding for vital public programs for the working poor, such as State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), the Healthy Start program, and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). These efforts also deserve union support.

By supporting your local United Way, you can make a positive difference Your Way

Here are three ways to make a difference on issues that you are passionate about:

- Give to your local United Way Community Impact Fund, providing local impact programs.
- Donate to your favorite community-based nonprofit or interfaith community.
- Volunteer with local our nonprofit partners or the AFL-CIO Community Services Program..

Please join me in supporting the 2008 United Way campaign where you live the problems facing American Working Families today are well understood by those of us in the Tampa Bay Region's Labor community.

Please join us in supporting the 2008 United Way campaign where you live and work. Together, we can help those in real need now while we work to turn America around.

Sincerely and in solidarity,

Valorie Reilly
President, AFGE Local 1594

To Do For All That Which None Can Do For Oneself

