

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 18, 2023**  
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## **Appeal Hits 14,000 Mailboxes for UWH's Annual Giving Campaign**

**(Hastings, MN)** The traditional United Way of Hastings (UWH) annual giving campaign kickoff was held at Todd Field on September 8 coinciding with the first home Hastings Raiders football game. UWH successfully launched its annual giving campaign, and the Raiders came away with a win.

The community will now be immersed in the UWH's annual giving campaign which lasts until the end of the year. Over 14,000 households and businesses in UWH's service area recently received the organization's appeal mailing in their mailboxes.

This year's theme for UWH's annual giving appeal is, "How Will You Save Lives?" UWH highlights several of its internal initiatives such as Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness, Food4Kids weekend student food, Helping Kids Succeed which builds webs of support, and Communities in Schools high school counseling. Individuals can learn more about how to save lives right here in our community and can make donations at [www.unitedwayofhastings.org](http://www.unitedwayofhastings.org).

"Sometimes we don't know the impact we have on someone when we provide our web of support tools, a Food4Kids weekend food bag, fentanyl poisoning awareness, and counseling for students," said Mari E. Mellick, CAE, Executive Director. "We know awareness about fentanyl poisoning saves lives, and we ask for community support to continue making an impact in all these areas."

The appeal flyer includes the listing of local nonprofits that UWH provides funding to through its annual allocations process. The flyer highlights UWH's top campaign sponsors who help offset the expense of fundraising so that more donor dollars can go to those in need. A complete list of campaign sponsors can be found at [www.unitedwayofhastings.org](http://www.unitedwayofhastings.org).

The UWH has been the Heart of Hastings for nearly 60 years working as an independent United Way serving Hastings and the surrounding rural communities within Independent School District #200. Its mission is to build partnerships to improve the lives of people in our community. UWH funds local nonprofits servicing people in the Hastings area and funds internal initiatives – all to support Education, Health and Financial Empowerment with an emphasis on Youth. Donations are accepted year-round. For more information about the UWH, visit [www.unitedwayofhastings.org](http://www.unitedwayofhastings.org).

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