

## United Way sets \$160,000 goal for new campaign

Written by faith Huffman  
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Hopkins County United Way Wednesday announced Chris Voorheese will continue for a second year as chairman of the annual campaign, which has set at goal of \$160,000 for the 2014-15 fundraising year.

Voorheese last year for the first time since 2008 increased the campaign goal, raising it from \$150,000 to \$155,000. Although the 2013-14 campaign was extended by nearly a month, ultimately the annual campaign netted \$189,261. This year's campaign goal was raised by another \$5,000; the campaign will officially kick off this fall.

Being a HCUW campaign officer is a two-year commitment. An individual generally serves as campaign chairman for one year, then takes a step back to serve as president the next year. This year, Voorheese will serve double-duty as both campaign chair and president.

"I was extremely blessed to see how the Lord works through me. We exceeded our goal in one of the first years we've increased the goal," Voorheese said. "I'll do it one more year and see what God has in store."

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The campaign chair noted that the four people asked to consider stepping up to fill the chairman seat this year declined, which he felt was a sign he should serve one more year. That will carry HCUW up to the 2015-16 campaign, which will mark the group's 60th anniversary.

HCUW officials also announced that the 16 agencies which benefitted from the 2012-13 campaign chaired by Judy Tipping would receive additional funding, thanks to the generosity of individuals, groups and businesses whose contributions pushed the total above the goal. Each agency was allocated a portion of the \$11,012.97 in additional contributions received from the 2012-13 campaign, with amounts proportionate to the percentage of the original goal allocated to that group. That's \$131,000, minus United Way of American and administrative expenses.

Community Chest, which received \$63,000 or 48.09 percent of the original \$131,000 allocated in 2012-13, received \$5,296.31 of the \$11,012.97 awarded Wednesday.

The other excess allocations were awarded as follows by agency name, amount allocated in the 2012-13 campaign, percent of the allocation, and excess amount awarded.

- Lake Country Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) — \$9,000, 6.87 percent, \$756.62
- Christian Alliance — \$8,000, 6.11 percent, \$672.55
- CANHelp — \$8,000, 6.11 percent, \$627.55
- Meal A Day — \$7,000, 5.34 percent, \$588.48
- Heritage Outreach — \$7,000, 5.34 percent, \$588.48
- Our Place — \$5,000, 3.82 percent, \$420.34
- Hopkins County Teen Court — \$5,000, 3.82 percent, \$420.34
- Boys & Girls Club — \$5,000, 3.892, \$420.34
- Shelter Agencies for Families in EastTexas (SAFE-T) — \$3,000, 2.29 percent, \$252.21
- Hopkins County 4-H Program — \$2,500, 1.91 percent, \$210.17
- East Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ETCADA) — \$2,000, 1.53 percent, \$168.14
- Northeast Texas/Southeast Oklahoma Trails Council of Boy Scouts — \$2,000, 1.53 percent, \$168.14
- Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas — \$2,000, 1.53, \$168.14
- North Texas Youth Connection — \$1,500, 1.15 percent, \$126.10
- Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center — \$1,000, 0.76 percent, \$84.07.