

*United Way of Bay County  
For Immediate Release  
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### **Bay County State of Human Services**

United Way assembled 130 business leaders and individuals at their State of Human Services Event held earlier this morning. The event focused on the economic contribution agencies provide and the challenges they will face in the coming year.

Health and human service agencies expend over \$280 million dollars in Bay County annually and are vital to economic development. They are also the same agencies whose doors are flooded with requests for services when times are difficult.

Bay County human service agencies will be addressing the drastic increase in food demands with a Food Summit to be held in early 2010. In response to the large number of individuals with mental health issues the Helen M. Nickless Clinic will be expanding its volunteer services to encompass counseling. These are community wide responses to need and built on volunteer services.

Volunteers are also key to the success of United Way and its fall campaign that is projected to raise \$1.05 million dollars this year. United Way is still calling on businesses and individuals to contribute. Anyone seeking more information on needs or wanting to contribute, should visit [www.unitedwaybaycounty.org](http://www.unitedwaybaycounty.org) or call 893-7508.

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