SERVING THE PEOPLE OF VENICE, OSPREY, NOKOMIS, ENGLEWOOD, NORTH PORT,

## **United Way South Sarasota County**

Summer 2015 Executive Director Message- Maryann Terry

Ella Fitzgerald wrote in one of her top hit songs "It's summer time and the living is easy" Well not for our at risk youth. During the regular school year, Sarasota County alone served more than six million meals to students who qualify for the federally funded meal program.

Thus, when the summer break occurs many students just do not have access to enough food.

In 1975, to ensure that students don't go hungry during the summer months, a federal nutrition program called Summer "BreakSpot" was created to serve nutritionally balanced meals that meet USDA guidelines. In Florida, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), administered by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, locally partners with Sarasota County Schools and other nonprofit organizations (sponsors) to provide the meals and receive a reimbursement from USDA. The Summer "BreakSpot" offers free breakfasts, lunches and snacks to anyone 18 and under all summer long. There is no cost for meals because USDA requires that these meals be served at no charge to all children. However, the site may have a fee set for the activity program that they may provide. At almost all sites, there is no application necessary and any child 18 or younger can simply come during meal times to receive a meal. During the summer of 2014, Florida had 146 summer sponsors and served over 13 million meals between the months of June through August at over 3,500 sites throughout the state. This year will be no exception, in fact thus far the numbers served seem to be surpassing last years, as indicated by the increase numbers to United Way 211surpassing last year's calls for assistance. How else is United Way supporting this community need? Sharing at presentations and distributing the program information to our agencies, on our Facebook page and on our website. That's the power of Living United in our communities....partnerships matter. Know someone who could benefit? Call 2.1.1. for a complete listing of sites, or go to another community partner site at www.allfaithsfoodbank.org

- Agency Meeting August 14- 9am—Loveland Center
- Kick Off Luncheon Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Jacaranda West Country Club @ noon
- Fish United Way Tournament Sept. 19, 2015 & Nov. 15, 2015
- UWSSC Foundation Golf Tournament Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> 2015



Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida Troop 198 of Venice encompassed "STEM" skills and the aspiration to positively impact environmental sustainability during the completion of their Girl Scout Bronze Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve. Partnering with the Reef Ball Foundation on this community "Take Action Project", girls from Laurel Nokomis Elementary, Garden Elementary and Island Village Monisori created reef balls which were strategically placed near existing bay reefs to restore local marine habi-tats and ultimately improving the state of the world's oceanic ecosystems.. Awesome Girl Power!

**girl scouts**of gulfcoast florida









Join in the fun, receive a cool T-shirt and raise money for your cause!

- □ UWSSC Venice Walk-a-Thon Feb. 20th, 2016
- ☐ UWSSC North Port Walk-a- Thon March 19, 2016







## LIVE UNITED...



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.





51st Annual Campaign Kick Off Luncheon

Thursday Sept. 17th, 2015 \* Noon @

Jacaranda West Country Club \* Sponsored by :













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UWSSC raises funds and awareness for 29 local nonprofit agencies that strive to improve education,

income stability and healthy lifestyles to children adults, families and seniors in South Sarasota County.

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