

PRESS RELEASE

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United Way
of Jackson County

United Way Helps Families Cover Prescription Costs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Jackson, Michigan, June 10, 2009

If you don't have health insurance, or need medicine not covered by your insurance plan, you need the FamilyWize prescription drug discount card being distributed by the United Way of Jackson County. This card could lower the cost of your medicine by an average 30% or more.

The United Way of Jackson County is providing these cards free-of-charge to everyone in our community. There are no age restriction, no income restrictions, no limit on how many times you can use it and no waiting to get a card.

"Healthcare costs are one of the top concerns for people in our community," said Ken Toll, Executive Director of the United Way of Jackson County. "40% of adults don't buy the medicine they need, have difficulty affording it or reduce the required dosage because of the high cost. The FamilyWize prescription drug discount cards will help individuals and families who otherwise could not afford to buy the medicine they need. Too many people have insufficient coverage, no prescription coverage or need medications not covered by their insurance, Medicare, Medicaid or VA benefits."

People with Internet access can go to www.FamilyWize.org to print a card, look up drug prices, and get a list of participating pharmacies.

FamilyWize cards also can be obtained at Advanced Care Pharmacy Services, Brown's Professional Services, Comet Welcome Pharmacies, Country Market Pharmacy, CVS Pharmacies, Grass Lake Pharmacy, K Mart Pharmacies, Longe Drugs, Meijer Pharmacies, Rite Aid Pharmacies, Rose City Pharmacy, Target Pharmacy, Walgreens, Wal-Mart Pharmacy, Weatherwax Drug Store, Welcome Pharmacy South, or at the United Way of Jackson County, 536 N. Jackson St., Jackson. Local businesses and employers can also get cards to give all their employees.

The United Way of Jackson County has joined more than 800 United Ways in all 50 states to save people over \$50 million in the next year on the cost of their medicine. So far, more than 12 million cards have been distributed. There is more information on the program's website at WWW.FAMILYWIZE.ORG.

"It's truly amazing what we can accomplish when we all work together. So many people and organizations have joined together to make this possible," said Ken Toll. "We invite all area organizations to contact us for a supply of cards, as well as every local business to get cards for all their employees and their families."

“We hope everyone in the community will take the time to thank their pharmacist, the United Way of Jackson County, and everyone else involved for the difference they are making in the lives of so many people in the community,” said Dan Barnes, Co-Chair of the FamilyWize Community Service Partnership. The participating pharmacies in the community have agreed voluntarily to accept the FamilyWize cards and provide these savings to people in need. Brown Printing, Independent Graphics and Rob-Win Press of greater Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania donate the printing for the cards, Sappi Fine Paper provides some of the paper, FedEx Express donates the shipping of the cards and the pharmacy benefit manager provides a portion of the processing fee to cover the administrative costs. The United Way of Jackson County is coordinating the distribution of the cards locally.

For more information call Scott Schmidt at (517) 796-5130 at the United Way of Jackson County