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# United Way Campaign Makes History

## Julie Bercik

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The people of the Valley have outdone themselves once again.

Generous donations from the community pave the way for the most success United Way campaign.

NBC 38's Julie Bercik has more.

"We are one of the best in the nation," said Scott Ferguson, United Way CEO. .

And there are 6,922,835 reasons why. That's the grand total for the 2008 campaign.

"That's 22 thousand over our goal," said Ferguson. "It's the most in our history."

It was all done despite a struggling economy. Campaign Chair, Abbott Turner, devoted himself to the campaign, even when it seemed impossible.

"When I started several months ago, I didn't know if there was any chance of getting anywhere close to that," said Turner." So thank you for that."

All of the money raised through the campaign stays here in the Valley, local organizations are the recipients of the funding.

"Helps after school programs, Red Cross, blood services, it's what makes the quality of life here so good," said Ferguson.

And it's all thanks to the people. This year marks the fourth consecutive year the United Way has exceeded its goal, making it one of the top in the country.

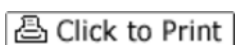
"There are about 1,200 United Ways and only 20 percent hit their goal this year," said Ferguson. "We're in the top 100 for money raised."

Floored by the generosity of the community, both Ferguson and Turner say words cannot express their gratitude, but there is one word they don't mind repeating.

"I can't say thank you enough," said Ferguson.

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