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**United Way of  
Otter Tail County**

# Press Release

## **UNITED WAY OF OTTER TAIL COUNTY ANNOUNCES FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

**Fergus Falls, MN; January 28, 2008:** United Way of Otter Tail County is now accepting applications from community non-profit organizations that are interested in applying for agency funding. Currently, United Way of Otter Tail County supports 34 health and human service agencies.

United Way of Otter Tail County' provides leadership in uniting Otter Tail County to improve lives and create lasting changes in community conditions. United Way strives to accomplish their mission by uniting citizens and agencies to plan, support and deliver effective human service programs.

United Way of Otter Tail County is a locally ran chapter of United Way of America, governed by a Board of Directors. The mission of United Way is to strengthen our community by bringing people and resources together to work on issues that affect all of us. Our current funding priorities include: Strengthening Children and Families, Enriching Seniors Lives, Promoting Independence and Wellness, Crisis and Intervention and Encouraging Community Involvement.

Organizations must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for funding:

- must be declared tax exempt by the Internal Revenue Service and have a 501(c) 3 status;
- requests should be based on an identifiable need, demand or issue in Otter Tail County;
- must have and follow a policy of non-discrimination and non-segregation on the basis of race, sex, age, physical and mental handicap, religion or national origin, regarding its governing body, employees and persons served;
- must have a Board of Directors consisting of volunteers who participate in the policy-making process, represent the diverse elements of the community, and periodically rotate off the board and meet at least quarterly with a quorum. Board members cannot receive financial remuneration from the program they oversee.

- United Way of Otter Tail County dollars may not be used for remodeling, renovation, expansion or construction.
- abide by and remain in compliance with all policies in funding contract;
- provide a brief mid-year report regarding funded program, thereby assisting United Way in assessing the impact and effectiveness;

“Our donors have entrusted us with their investment in our community’s future and expect a return on their investment,” said Teresa Dahlstrom, Donor Relations Coordinator. “We intend to demonstrate such a return by ensuring that not only our funding priorities are followed, but our funding guidelines are met as well – this helps us ensure we are striving to reach our community goals.”

The deadline for agencies to apply is close of business on March 14, 2008. Please visit [www.uwotc.org](http://www.uwotc.org) to download a copy of the application, guidelines for funding and a checklist for applying. To have a copy mailed to you or for assistance with the application process, contact United Way’ at (218) 736-5147.

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