

United Way University

School is back in session and our education programs are in full swing. United Way fights for education in our community. Our work in education centers around the goals of getting kids ready for kindergarten, reading at grade level by third grade and graduating on time with skills to be career and life-ready. United Way's education programs:

- Enhance school readiness and strengthen family dynamics.

- Provide mentoring, safe places to play, tutoring and leadership development.

- Keep youth on track for school, work and life.

- Prevent child abuse.

Last year, 3,888 children attended subsidized after-school and summer programs to help them avoid risky behaviors. Also, 441 children received high quality child care, and 2,193 children received programming

with the goal of them reading on grade level by third grade.



**AMANDA
BURT**

While students are back in the classroom, local corporations are educating their associates on United Way. Advanced Insurance Strategies, Brown Industries, Dalton Utilities and Dorsett Industries have all gone on United Way

Impact Tours. These tours allow associates to see firsthand the impact their gift is making in our community. They have learned about our 21 Community Partners who are working in education, basic needs and health. They have heard the stories of the almost 60,000 people whose lives were impacted through United Way last year alone.

Several companies have held United Way campaign presentations. Advanced Insurance Strategies, Americhem, Lexmark, Dalton Utilities, Shaw Industries, UPS and

Whitfield County Schools are well underway with their United Way education for this year. They have all hosted meetings where their associates have learned about the work of United Way in Whitfield and Murray counties.

They have also learned how they can make "Great Things Happen" by giving to United Way. A few dollars can go a long way in the fight for education.

- \$5 per week provides curriculum books for the teen Healthy Choices program.

- \$10 per week provides two months of high quality child care designed to get children ready for kindergarten.

- \$25 per week provides after-school programming for a child for an entire year.

There's always something to learn no matter your age. Thirteen years ago, Ted needed a place where his wife could be well-cared for during the day. Robbine's condition had deteriorated to the point that she needed more help each day than

he could give.

That's when he learned about RossWoods Adult Day Services.

In their early life together, Robbine had always been the caretaker and Ted wanted to find the best place to care for her. Of course, he chose RossWoods. Robbine enjoys the daily socialization, and she loves to play cards with other participants and volunteers. Several individuals have met Robbine over the years during our United Way impact tours learning of the quality care provided by United Way Community Partner, RossWoods Adult Day Services.

As your kids are learning in the classroom, I invite you to learn about our community through United Way. If you would like your associates to receive a United Way education through tours or presentations, please contact Jessica Trivino at jessica.trivino@ourunitedway.org.

Amanda Burt is the president of United Way of Northwest Georgia.