



Friday, March 29, 2002

UW, BUF fund drive ends April 5

OU faculty and staff have until Friday, April 5, to donate to Oakland University's fund drive for United Way (UW) and the Black United Fund (BUF).

"Our students directly benefit from the services of United Way and the Black United Fund," said Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder. "We have students with difficulties in their lives, those with no financial resources and those who need shelter. We turn to United Way of Oakland County and the Black United Fund for support.

"With the tough economic times we are facing, I see the needs daily. The agencies of United Way and the Black United Fund need the support of those who can afford to help out. I urge you to think once more about making a donation before April 5."

So far, OU employees have made 82 donations, totaling \$12,159. Employees can make a donation by check or payroll deduction. For those interested in payroll deduction, your gift can be spread over a maximum of nine months (through December 31, 2002). To take advantage of payroll deduction, your pledge form must be received by the Department of Annual Giving no later than Wednesday, April 10.

The United Way fund drive supports 130 local health and human service agencies in the tri-county area, including OU's Americorp program in Pontiac, the American Red Cross, Goodwill Industries, Oakland Livingston Legal Aid, Pontiac Urban League and Gleaners Community Food Bank.

The Black United Fund helps build a viable philanthropic institution for African-American opportunity, growth and change. BUF raises funds for organizations that offer a wide variety of services to African-Americans in the areas of child welfare, health, education, equal opportunity, economic development, the environment and social justice.

"If you have not already done so, I encourage you to give your generous support to these two charitable partners that consistently demonstrate their substantial impact through Oakland County," OU President Gary Russi said in a memo recently sent to all OU employees.

Gifts to the United Way and Black United Fund are considered charitable donations and are tax deductible on state and federal income returns. Employees should consult their adviser for specific details.

All OU faculty and staff were sent information and pledge forms in February. If you didn't receive a packet, or need another one, please contact Julie Vulaj, director of annual giving, at (248) 370-3700, extension 1693, or vulaj@oakland.edu.

SUMMARY

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