

United Way of the Tanana Valley and FamilyWize announce savings of **\$181,000 in everyday prescription costs for local residents**

United Way of the Tanana Valley and FamilyWize are proud to announce that their partnership has saved the people living and working in Fairbanks and surrounding communities more than **\$181,000** on everyday prescription costs.

The free FamilyWize drug discount card is distributed by United Way of the Tanana Valley. “No one should be forced to choose between paying for food, rent or medicine because of the high cost of prescriptions. That’s why we’ve partnered with FamilyWize to distribute free prescription discount cards to everyone in the Tanana Valley,” said Lexi Miller, Resource Development Director of the United Way of the Tanana Valley.

Distributed through United Ways, the FamilyWize card lowers the cost of medicine by an average of 30% or more for people without insurance or who take medications not covered by their plan. It’s easy. It’s just like a coupon you can keep using every time you need to fill a prescription. All you have to do is present a FamilyWize card at a local pharmacy to get the savings.

“The FamilyWize card provides immediate savings on prescription medicines with no paperwork or forms to fill out,” said Dan Barnes, Co-chair of The FamilyWize Community Service Partnership.

These cards can be used by everyone in the community, not just people without insurance. They can even be used by people with health benefits, including Medicaid or Medicare.

The FamilyWize card is easy to use:

- It’s Free
- For immediate and unlimited use
- Anyone can use the FamilyWize card
- Accepted at 95% of pharmacies nationwide
- No enrollment or personal information needed

Nearly 1,000 United Ways in all 50 states have helped to save more than \$100 million on prescriptions in their communities.

FamilyWize cards can be found locally at the United Way of the Tanana Valley office, located at 565 University Avenue. People with internet access can go to www.FamilyWize.org to print a card, look up drug prices and obtain a list of participating pharmacies.

ABOUT THE FAMILYWIZE PARTNERSHIP

In the spring of 2005, Dan and Susan Barnes heard of families in the Lehigh Valley area who were having difficulty buying the medicine they needed because of the high cost of prescription drugs. They responded by distributing a free prescription discount drug card through family and health centers in the schools in Bethlehem. The family centers then involved the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley who asked 25 of its partner agencies to help distribute the cards to individuals and families in need throughout the area. Almost immediately, Dan and Susan received requests from other United Ways to provide this free assistance in other communities. As a result, they established the FamilyWize Community Service Partnership in the fall of 2005 inviting a group of local and national companies to join together to provide this free assistance through United Ways to people in need across the county. Currently more than 900 participating United Way agencies and America's Promise Alliance Partners in all 50 states coordinate the local distribution of the free FamilyWize prescription drug discount cards. In March of 2010, the total savings from the use of FamilyWize prescription drug discount cards passed \$100 MM and a new goal was established to reach \$1 billion in savings by the year 2020. For more information, visit www.FamilyWize.org.