

# Family Services receives big boost from UW coffers

By SANDY CAMPBELL  
Herald Staff

The greatest need in Halton Hills, which the United Way will be giving more money to in the future, is family services, said United Way President Jim Kinnear.

"Other groups are better served than the emotional and psychological needs of children," he said. And if the needs of such children are served it will save taxpayers thousands of dollars in the long run.

The cost of keeping a young offender locked up is between \$300 to \$400 a day, Mr. Kinnear gave as one example. That much would be spent in a month if the child's needs were addressed and resolved at an earlier age.

Reductions in school

absenteeism, petty theft and vandalism would be just some of the ways the community would benefit from addressing the problems of youth, Mr. Kinnear said.

The United Way allocated \$56,000 two weeks ago to the 18 member agencies it supports. Of that amount \$34,000 was given to the Red Cross, the Georgetown branch receiving \$27,000 and the Acton branch \$7,000.

The remaining \$22,000 was divided between 16 agencies. The amounts received by those agencies are as follows: alcohol and drug addiction programs, \$400; Acton Social Services and Information Centre, \$2,000; Big Brothers, \$750; Canadian National Institute for the Blind, \$1,700; Community Resource Service of Halton, \$300; Halton Adoles-

cent Support Services, \$1,000; Halton Consumer Credit Counselling Service, \$400; Halton Family Services, \$200; Halton Helping Hands, \$1,000; Halton Recovery House, \$1,100; Halton Social Planning Council, \$1,000; North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded, \$4,200; North Halton Distress Centre, \$2,000; North Halton Hospice, \$2,000; Victorian Order of Nurses, \$400 and the Halton Hills YMCA, \$2,650.

Money allocated to the agencies is based on the \$90,000 the United Way is certain to get from the 1986 campaign. United Way expenses for 1986 were \$34,000. They expect to spend as much in 1987, Mr. Kinnear said.

Exactly how much money will be collected from the 1986 campaign won't be known until the end of this year, when the last dollar pledged comes in. The United Way will have more than the \$90,000, possibly as much as \$20,000 more, Mr. Kinnear said.

How that extra money will be distributed will be decided when the new Halton Hills United Way Board is elected in April. Extra money might be distributed to all the agencies or the money could be given to certain agencies working on specific projects, Mr. Kinnear said.

The cost of running the United Way in Halton Hills is high at first. This is the first campaign. But after five years, when the residents are familiar with the organization, the United Way will not need to do as much advertising and promoting, Mr. Kinnear said. By then the equipment needed to run the organization will also be in place.

Within four years the costs of the United Way will be 15 per cent of the total amount collected, Mr. Kinnear said. Money collected in the first campaign in Halton Hills exceeded the expectations of campaign organizers. "The people in town really deserve credit for understanding the needs of the community," Mr. Kinnear said.



United Way of Halton Hills President Jim Kinnear was all smiles Sunday when a cheque was presented to the UW totalling \$283. Seen here is Rick Glugosh (right) presenting the cheque to Mr. Kinnear. Mr. Glugosh is the general

manager of Jack Tanner's Table and the Old Hide House. To support the UW, a special luncheon was held and a dollar was contributed by the Old Hide House for every patron served. (Herald photo by Simon Wilson)

## Doling out the dough isn't easy

There was dissatisfaction by Regional councillors over how Halton deals out its social services grants, last week.

"We dispensed what little dollars we had as carefully and judiciously as we could," Health and Social Services Committee vice-chairman James Grieve said. "We were left with total frustration. There must be a better way to deal with this matter than we are presently doing."

He noted when a guideline is set, the agencies tend to not go over it, but some work up to that guideline, when they may not need 4 per cent more this year than they received last year.

"I want to be sure the money we are spending we're getting honest value for," the Burlington councillor said, suggesting the groups be audited.

"We have a serious dilemma here - we don't have enough money. It's that simple. Guys and girls, this is it," Coun. Grieve declared.

The Region had \$50,000 to spend on social services agencies this year.

New groups applying for Halton funding should have to prove themselves, just as they do to belong to the United Way, Coun. Grieve suggested.

The question of what is the Region's role as a funder and a review of the current method of

granting money will be undertaken by the Social Services Director Bonnie Ewart.

She said the current system perpetuates the giving of grants to the same groups and that's where the process is stuck.

Burlington Mayor Roly Bird pointed out the Region was pushing for a Halton United Way so that it

could get out of funding all these agencies.

Burlington Coun. Little said several years ago people would get help from their neighbours and clergy. With more and more of these social services agencies coming into being, the community of neighbours and caring for one another is being destroyed. Professionals are taking over where they shouldn't be, she said.

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