

November XX, 2010

Prefix, First Name Last Name
Address
City, State, Zip

Dear Prefix Last Name,

You don't know me, but I know you. You have helped feed my family. My two daughters and I each lost about 20 pounds, but we weren't on a diet, we were going hungry. But thanks to people like you who have supported United Way, we were able to turn our lives around. **Please make more stories like mine a reality by making a gift today.**

*I'm a single mom, and last year, I was unemployed for nine months. **We had only \$30 a month for food.** We lived on rice, beans, milk, bread and little else. More often than not, we went hungry. My kids' education started sliding. My younger daughter starting struggling with her grades and getting into fights at school, and my older daughter was so stressed out that she didn't graduate high school.*

*I sent out my resume countless times with no luck. I felt desperate. **Then a friend recommended United Way's SparkPoint, a one-stop financial help center for struggling families like mine where we can get back on our feet.** I got help applying for food stamps and utilities assistance. More importantly I met Sylvia, a job coach who helped me revamp my resume and refocus my job search.*

*Almost instantaneously I started getting job calls. I was so shocked – in seven days, I had four interviews. I was hot that week! I got a job – and then another to help me catch up on my bills. My girls and I are no longer hungry. We are gaining weight. And **my daughters have been able to focus on school rather than their hunger.** Today my younger girl is not fighting at school anymore, and she's getting good progress reports. And I'm so proud that my older daughter just got her high school diploma!*

I feel so much relief that I can provide for my daughters now and be what a mom should be so that they can go on and be who they are. United Way's programs not only helped me, they helped me to help myself. I am so grateful. **Please consider a donation to United Way so we can change the lives of more people in our community.**

Sincerely,



Etta Foster
United Way SparkPoint Client

P.S. See how your contribution is making a difference – visit www.uwba.org