

By The Victoria Advocate Editorial Board

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Charitable giving is more important now than it has been in quite a few years. The recession has hurt us all, and giving is tougher than ever, yet more needs to be given.

We urge businesses and other organizations to come aboard the ship we all know as the United Way, and join the businesses and organizations already contributing; be part of the community that helps the fleet of non-profits that the United Way serves to enhance positive changes in our community and provides hope to those who are in dire need.

Our Victoria County United Way serves 20 agencies here in Victoria. And those 20 agencies help children and families in need - anything from the Boy Scouts to Victoria Adult Literacy to Victoria County Senior Citizens.

This year's fund goal is \$936,000, and that is \$48,000 more than last year's goal, which was exceeded by \$5,000.

Co-chairs of the 2009 campaign, James Clifton and Kelly Park, say that if we work together, the goal can be met. We agree.

We have all traditionally have given to help this worthwhile cause.

However, we think it is time that volunteers and United Way representatives should work to increase the number of businesses and organizations involved in the fundraising. The more of us contributing, the more likely the 2009 goal will be achieved.

"We can accomplish more together than we can individually. We know our community stands behind the United Way. It does every year," Clifton said.

We agree. The more businesses and organizations that join our efforts, the more we will meet the 2009 goal and effectively help our community. Please join us.

This editorial reflects the views of the Victoria Advocate's editorial board