



United Neighborhood Centers
of Northeastern Pennsylvania
www.uncnepa.org

Contact:

Julianne Kalasinski
Communications Director
346-0759 X 104
jkalasinski@uncnepa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UNC's Thanksgiving Feed-A-Friend Food Basket Program in Full Effect
Beginning with basket registrations for local families in need

SCRANTON, PA – *Imagine Thanksgiving without a turkey on your table.* For most families, this is a hard concept to envision. The thought of not being able to provide your family with a Thanksgiving meal is devastating, but some families have no choice.

United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Upper Valley Project Hope, and individual volunteers are planning for annual Thanksgiving Feed-A-Friend Food Basket Program, sponsored by WNEP-TV 16. This is the 29th year of providing traditional Thanksgiving food baskets to needy families with children. These baskets are filled with everything a family needs to make a home-cooked Thanksgiving meal.

The program begins with basket registration. For families residing in the Carbondale area, registration will take place in the Marion Community Hospital auditorium on November 6th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., November 12th from 3 to 6 p.m., and November 17th from 3 to 6 p.m.

All registering families must bring proof of income to qualify such as access cards, unemployment records, current pay stubs, AND any form of documentation of family members in the household. All families must have children ages 18 or under.

With the struggling economy, we are expecting an even greater number of families coming to UNC seeking a Thanksgiving basket. "People rely on programs like this especially during times when putting food on the table has become such a struggle," explains Lisa Durkin, UNC director of community services.

UNC will also accept both monetary and traditional Thanksgiving food donations to assist in the Thanksgiving Feed-A-Friend Food Basket Program. Checks may be made out to Upper Valley

Project Hope and mailed to: Upper Valley Project Hope, C/O 100 Lincoln Avenue, Carbondale, PA 18407.

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Background:

Upper Valley Project Hope is the collaborative effort of representatives from Quality Perforating Inc., United Neighborhood Centers, Marion Community Hospital, devoted individuals volunteers and those from organizations such as UNICO, The Wild Turkey Federation, local churches and high schools. All monies collected by Upper Valley Project Hope are used to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for families with children who live in the area between Forest City and Archbald.