

Grant from Children’s Health Foundation to United Way Supports Perinatal Care

Comox Valley, BC- July 2, 2013 – The United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island (UWCNVI) gratefully accepted a grant for \$26,670 from the Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island to fund the Comox Valley Community Connections Perinatal Care Project for the next year.

Comox Valley Community Connections Group Perinatal Care Project will offer perinatal care to 70-100 families, in small groups, through a series of eight two hour sessions as well as an ongoing postpartum support group. A facilitator, a registered midwife, and guest presenters will support a group of women – with similar due dates - during and after their pregnancy with a focus on three key components: assessment, education and support. The sessions will be interactive and encourage mutual support following the Centering Pregnancy model – a best-practice, collaborative and relationship-based form of service delivery that research shows provides improved health outcomes for families.

“United Way is focused on strengthening the fabric of the community in the Comox Valley. Last year we funded the pilot of this project through Success By 6 funding from the Ministry of Children and Families and Success by 6 partner, Coastal Community Credit Union. This year we are so pleased to be working with the Children’s Health Foundation to build on the pilot project to help support families and strengthen resources in the Valley,” said Signy Madden, Executive Director, UWCNVI.

The United Way is very active in the Comox Valley and supports 11 other local social service programs to help make the community a stronger, healthier and safer place. The annual ***Change starts here*** fundraising campaign begins in September, but donations, volunteers and other help is sought throughout the year. Please contact Brad Bayly at 250-702-2911 to get involved.

About UWCNVI

UWCNVI improves lives and builds community by engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action. Since 1958 UWCNVI has help strengthen the communities it serves. Because of the generosity of donors and volunteers, UWCNVI is able to fund 44 charities supporting 49 programs for children, youth and seniors in Central Island, the Comox Valley and Campbell River this year. UWCNVI also manages the Success by Six early childhood development programs throughout the Central and Northern Island and plays a part in working to reduce homelessness by being the Community Entity for Nanaimo’s Homelessness Strategy. United Way’s Better at Home program to help keep seniors living at home will begin in Nanaimo, Parksville, Port Hardy, Comox Valley and Port Alberni in 2013.

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Change starts here

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