A box of food and a dozen of eggs balancing on her head were too hard to ignore during the 2016 Weld Project Connect in October.

Jamilah Hassan, a 26-year-old who has lived in Greeley the past six years, walked away from Island Grove Events Center with a smile on her face.

Jamilah had baby clothes, baby food, books and other items for her four children in the box. She is grateful for the free services that Weld Project Connect provides. Jamilah, an employee at JBS, also understands that when good things come her way, she makes sure that she reciprocates.

“This year the event was very good,” said Jamilah. “People get helped and get questions answered.” Even though Jamilah was getting services at Weld Project Connect, she still manages to donate to UWWC. “United Way is great at helping people” she said. “I give some

money from my check at work at JBS to United Way. They help me with diapers.”

Jamilah was one of more than 1,225 guests at the sixth annual event, which provided services from health and human service agencies, area businesses and community organization to those in need due to housing instability, job loss, underemployment, health issues and other issues that can impact one's life.

John Gates, the event chairman, said the day was great and a lot of people were helped. “It's very satisfying. I was a little freaked when I took over the chairmanship of this because this is a massive event, but it kind of runs itself and is really a well-oiled

“The volunteers, the sponsors and United Way just made it a great event.”

- John Gates

Weld Project Connect Chairman

Please see Weld Project Connect on page 3
United Way of Weld County’s 2-1-1 Information and Referral service received a call from a woman seeking transportation from Colorado to Utah. The woman, who was single and in a domestic violence situation, needed to travel back home to Utah from Greeley, but she had no mode of transportation.

The 2-1-1 call specialist assured the woman that she would try and help her find a way back to Utah. She called a local long-distance bus transportation company for price, day and time. The call specialist then engaged a local church for financial assistance. The local church reviewed the request and approved assistance for full financial resources for bus fare, and the woman was on her way to Utah.

Agencies involved in this 2-1-1 solution:
Trinity Episcopal Church and United Way of Weld County

14,992 CALLS
WERE MADE TO UNITED WAY’S 2-1-1 INFORMATION & REFERRAL PROGRAM LAST YEAR

Reaching out with Resource Development Council Chairman Robby Aguilar

Q: How did you become involved with United Way of Weld County?
RA: I started on the AmeriCorps VISTA committee reviewing business applications for organizations who wanted a VISTA member. I’ve been active in our Wells Fargo annual United Way campaign since I started working there 13 years ago.

Q: Talk about your experience as the council chairman so far?
RA: We meet monthly and teach resource development champions about all of the good United Way does in our community. We set goals of community outreach to help spread the word of United Way. I had the opportunity to go to the national United Way conference in Vancouver, Canada, earlier this year. It was great to see how much of an impact United Way has on each local community throughout the world.

Q: What makes United Way of Weld County stand out to you?
RA: I love the work that United Way of Weld County does with our children such as Bright by Three, which is such an outstanding program. Weld Project Connect was so impressive with how many community members it was able to help in one day.

Q: How has United Way of Weld County impacted your life?
RA: It has allowed me to teach my daughter the value of giving back by bringing her along when I can or role modeling the behavior for her. It’s allowed my wife and me to give back our time and resources when and how we can. It’s allowed me to meet and work with so many people who do such great things for our community every day.

Q: Why do you feel it’s important to volunteer your time?
RA: I believe that if some members of our community are hurting, then we are all hurting at some level. I think that helping and serving others are the best ways to lead a meaningful and happy life for everyone in our community.
**Here are five reasons why your pledge works**

1 OUT OF EVERY 5

PEOPLE IN WELD COUNTY WERE HELPED BY
A UNITED WAY OF WELD COUNTY PROVIDED
OR FUNDED PROGRAM LAST YEAR

“Without you, we could not come close
to helping children, youth and families
in Weld County.
- Jeannine Truswell, President & CEO
United Way of Weld County

**SUPPORTS**
1 out of 5 people are helped every year by a United
Way supported program or service.

**STABILITY**
United Way of Weld County has been in existence
since 1940 assisting residents every step of the way
through its building blocks of Education, Financial
Stability and Health.

**ACCOUNTABILITY**
United Way of Weld County’s partnership with the
Better Business Bureau ensures an overall excellence
in the review of nonprofit management criteria.

**CORNERSTONE PARTNERSHIP**
Partnering with 35 local companies to designate their
corporate gifts to help underwrite operating costs.

**FUNDS**
Invests in 125 Weld County agency programs.

The United Way of Weld County PASO team
completed its sixth cohort and capped
it off with a graduation celebration for 22
women in October. A total of 140 adults and
45 children were in attendance, including
UWWC board of directors Ken Poncelow and
Rebecca Koppes Conway.

What makes PASO so special and important
is that each child care provider puts in more
than 120 hours of training and meets almost
every Saturday over a nine-month period.
This is a huge commitment and UWWC
recognizes their dedication.

**TO DONATE GO TO WWW.UNITEDWAY-WELD.ORG**

**FAMILY, FRIEND & NEIGHBOR CHILD CARE**
**PROVIDERS GRADUATED AFTER NINE MONTHS**
**OF TRAINING TO PROVIDE QUALITY EARLY**
**CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL READINESS FOR THE**
**109 CHILDREN IN THEIR CARE**

**Weld Project Connect continued from front cover**

machine. It is the most satisfying event I’ve ever
been involved in. It’s very, very humbling. We had
a lot of first-time navigators that said they were
really touched,” Gates said.

Margie Martinez, the WPC project manager, said
the day flew by. “Just to be able to see the services
and getting that number of people through there
in five hours, it was very rewarding,” Martinez
said.
LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

When you make a gift to United Way of Weld County's Legacy Endowment Fund, you are truly making a gift with a future! Your endowment gifts guarantee that financial support will remain readily available for the future needs of the community. If you are interested in any of our planned giving options, we will be pleased to work with you and your advisers to develop a planned gift that best suits your particular needs.

For more information or to discuss your needs in confidence, please contact Christi Smith, Vice President of Resource Development, at 970-304-6185 or christi@unitedway-weld.org

CORNERSTONE PARTNERS

Cornerstone Partners donate their resources to help cover administrative and fundraising costs because they believe in United Way of Weld County. This ensures that individual donations go directly to programs and services that benefit our community.