

Fontana Unified Celebrates Student Success, Partnership with United Way

FONTANA, CA – Over the past five years, Fontana Unified and United Way have partnered to support the health, education and financial stability of students and their families.

This partnership – which has resulted in campus makeovers and donations of school supplies and backpacks of nutritious food for students – was celebrated at the Inland Empire United Way Gala on Feb. 28.

Live Oak Elementary Principal Patricia Corral highlighted United Way's impact on her school, sharing how the organization provided support to a mother and her four children after Live Oak staff recognized two students in need.

"We noticed that the two students were late to school every day, so we reached out and discovered that their family was living out of the mother's car and using park restrooms to get cleaned up for school every day, hence why they were late," Corral said.

"The mother was also enrolled in school to become a medical assistant, so the first thing we did was sign her children up for Kids Pack ... weekend food packs provided by United Way for our neediest of families," she said.

United Way has partnered with community organizations to provide campus makeovers to Live Oak Elementary, Date Elementary, West Randall Elementary, Fontana Middle School and Fontana High School.

Each makeover was designed to brighten the school campus with murals that promote a positive, welcoming learning environment.

United Way has also purchased books for Fontana Unified's school and classroom libraries, and been an active participant in the District's Read Across America literacy program.

"Thankfully, organizations such as United Way collaborate with us to ensure our students have basic needs met," Corral said. "We are connected by children and families."

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