

United Way of Winona Closing Their Door This Year

United Way of the Greater Winona Area has announced that it will close as of December 31, 2016. The decision was unanimously approved by its Board of Directors after an extensive period of study and reflection. Steadily declining campaigns and a lack of resources to adequately staff its operations were the key reasons for the decision.

One of the programs whose funding from United Way will soon end is Catholic Charities' Medication Application Service (MediAppS). MediAppS helps low income uninsured people either purchase medications or medical devices on a short-term basis or secure free medications made available by pharmaceutical companies.

As the doors of United Way close . . . please don't close the doors to those served by MediAppS! Continue to support those who struggle to find ways to pay for their needed medications. [**DONATE TODAY!**](#) (Designate your dollars to MediAppS)

Food or Medication: What Would You Choose?

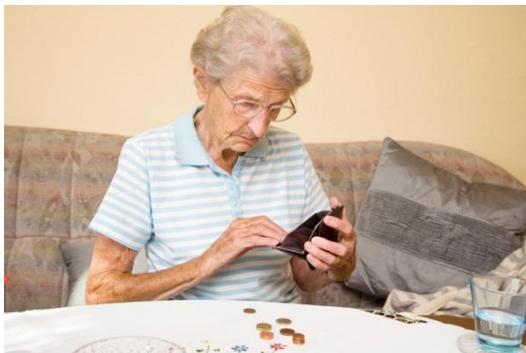
The MediAppS program of Catholic Charities helps individuals pay for their needed medications or find lower cost solutions to their medication needs. When many needed medications cost hundreds of dollars per month without insurance, it is impossible to pay for these medications while living on a low income budget. People are faced with the grim choice of buying food, paying the rent, or buying the medications they need to maintain their health. If you needed both food and medication to live....what would you choose?

Aunt Mary's Struggle

Mary (not her real name) needs the medication that helps her function with her narcolepsy, a neurological disorder that affects the control of sleep and wakefulness. Fortunately, Mary has some prescription medication insurance coverage. However, the insurance copayment of \$300 at the pharmacy for the needed medication was unaffordable because her insurance deductible had not been met. It is difficult to believe that there are countless people in the Winona area who need to choose daily between buying food or their medication! What is even more heartbreaking is to step back and see the anguish on the faces of those struggling to find ways to stay healthy.

The pharmacist referred Mary to the MediAppS caseworker at Catholic Charities.

After a discussion with Mary about her income, it was suggested that Mary purchase the needed



medication through a low-cost mail-order pharmacy called *RxOutreach*. The cost of the medication through *RxOutreach* was \$80 for a 90-day supply. The caseworker worked with Mary's doctor to obtain the documentation needed to enroll Mary in the *RxOutreach* program. Mary provides the \$80 payment and the MediAppS caseworker helps Mary reorder her prescription as needed. MediAppS is a life-changing blessing for Mary and so many others like her!