

Building Strong Communities

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Shatterly supports United Way through volunteerism

By Gordon Paulus

Darrel Shatterly is one of many Gulf Power employees who demonstrate the United Way creed to "Live United."

Shatterly, Fort Walton Beach Planning & Construction team leader, has been involved in United Way and its agencies for a long time.

He served 11 years on the Okaloosa County United Way Funds Distribution committee, stepping down in 2007.

He was the coordinator of the United Way Day of Caring in Okaloosa County for seven years and has been the co-coordinator for the last three years with Scott Adams, Meter Tech A-Crestview.

Late last year, he joined the board of directors of Fresh Start Agency, a United Way organization.

"I enjoy it," said Shatterly, who has been with Gulf Power for 21 years. "It makes you realize how fortunate you are when you see how unfortunate others are. If you can help them, they can turn it around."

On the Funds Distribution committee, Shatterly helps decide how much each agency receives of the undesignated funds.

It's tough, he said, deciding how much money each group receives.

"It really opens your eyes as far as the number of agencies out there," he said. "There are so

many with so many needs. I was oblivious to it. You see it all on the committee. I would recommend that anybody get on that committee."

The Fresh Start Agency, which is part of the Coalition on the Homeless, provides a six-month program for the homeless who are drug-free and alcohol-free. The agency helps them find a job and takes a percentage out of their pay and places it in a savings plan to pay for deposits.

Shatterly has been participating in the Day of Caring event each year for as long as he can remember – either as a helper or a leader.

"Day of Caring is a great day," he said. "I wish everybody could be involved all the time."



Darrel Shatterly, left, goes over a job safety plan with Central District employees during last year's United Way Day of Caring event. (Photo-Mark Serafin)

Do you Live United? Please share your United Way story with us and we will share it on our website! Please email to campaignasst@united-way.org.