COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hope Community Center program facilitator Katie O'Hotzke talks about the wellness activities at the center Tuesday with, from left, members Tim Jones, Jessica Rogers and Doug Meredith.  TELEGRAM PHOTO BY LONNIE HUHMAN

Changing lives

A look at the impact of Lenawee United Way

By Lonnie Huhman  Daily Telegram Staff Writer

ADRIAN — Every year people give to the United Way. Every year those funds, for the most part, get spent at various agencies and organizations around Lenawee County.

Chances are, most of those giving — nearly $725,000 in 2013-2014 — have no idea how much good those dollars do.

They help keep places like the Hope Community Center afloat.

The center's $300,000 annual budget is nearly 100 percent funded through community support, with Lenawee County's Civitan Club and United Way being two of the biggest supporters. Without that funding the center could not support Lenawee County adults with disabilities in pursuing an empowered, healthy and community-enriched lives.

"We believe everyone has gifts and abilities and can contribute to the type of world we want to see," Director Scott Whitehouse said of Hope's mission.

Why this matters

Each year Lenawee United Way takes in financial donations from the public to help fund the services it supports in the community. Those who donate put faith in the idea their money is being put to good use.

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