



**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

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MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD AND PROVIDE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK AT GALLERY NIGHT

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Looking for a rewarding way to support your community? Make your voice heard and contribute to the improvement of Escambia County by completing the Community Needs Assessment during Gallery Night on Friday, March 18. Your feedback will directly impact how United Way of Escambia County supports the area and its local citizens. While strolling through the charming brick walkways of downtown Pensacola, stop by UWF Haas Center's table from 5 to 8 p.m. to complete the assessment.

Every three years, United Way gathers feedback from local citizens in order to align its resources to create sustainable change. In 2015, United Way focused \$3.14M of donations to provide a \$9.18M impact through 43 funded programs at 30 partner agencies. Those dollars were awarded based on a past community needs assessment. This year, United Way partnered with the Haas Center to create a detailed survey that allows people in Escambia County to voice their thoughts on how to better meet the needs of their friends, family and neighbors. From businessmen to students, grocers to bankers—each person who completes an assessment provides a clearer picture of Escambia County's current needs in the areas of education, health and financial stability.

United Way Board Member Yvette McLellan agrees that having a diverse group of citizens participate in the assessment will enable United Way to determine what community needs are most pressing. McLellan adds, "Who better than the citizens to let us know what is needed? They are the ones who know best what is and isn't needed." United Way understands that local citizens are the best source for identifying where community resources should be focused. Your feedback will help United Way significantly improve the lives of many local citizens in Escambia County.

Join the Haas Center and United Way on Gallery Night and complete the assessment on iPads or on paper. For those who cannot attend gallery night, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UWEC2016> to complete the survey.

By living core values of serving the community with Integrity, Leadership, Inclusiveness, Volunteerism and Excellence (I LIVE), United Way of Escambia County is working to meet a mission of uniting our community and leveraging resources to improve lives.

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