

## Real People, Real Results: A Report to Heritage United Way Community Investors

### Part of the Team: Brandon's Story

*Heritage United Way's community partner agencies work together everyday to address the most critical issues facing thousands of infants, children, teens, adults and elderly individuals in our eighteen communities. Last year, your contributions to United Way enabled children, like Brandon, to participate in team sports in order to lead a healthy, productive life.*

Late in the summer of '06, Leigh, a single mother of a ten year-old boy, Brandon, came to The Salvation Army. Her son's pediatrician had recently told her that he would need to start increasing his physical activity in order to improve his health and keep his increasing weight down. Knowing this was a reality she could no longer avoid, she encouraged him to try out for a team sport. He enthusiastically chose football.

Upon signing up, he was told that he would need a pair of cleats for the upcoming tryout. At the time, Leigh was unemployed and receiving only inconsistent child support payments. She did not have the extra money to buy Brandon the new cleats he would need for his football team try-out.

With no one to turn to for help, Leigh made a call over to The Salvation Army. After a scheduled meeting with the Comprehensive Assistance Director, they were able to help Leigh with a voucher to a local department store so that she could buy Brandon the cleats he needed for football tryouts.

In a follow-up letter, it was discovered that not only was he on his way to a healthier childhood, but he had made the team!

Thanks to you and your support of Heritage United Way, agencies like The Salvation Army can continue to provide individuals, like Brandon, with the support they need to lead a better life.

**collaboration matters.** For more information on how Heritage United Way partners in your community every day, please visit our newly redesigned website- [www.heritageunitedway.org](http://www.heritageunitedway.org).