



Utah Bankers Association • 185 South State Street, Suite 201 • Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 • 801-364-4303

---

# NEWS

---

For Immediate Release

For Additional Information

Contact: John Becker (801) 359-0246

Presentation Nov. 19 at 1:00 PM at Family Support Center

## **Volunteer Stella LeVan to be Honored for Community Contributions**

**By Utah Bankers Association**

(Cedar City, UT --- November 17, 2003) Stella LeVan, a volunteer with the Family Support Center of Southwestern Utah will receive an award Wednesday, November 19 from the Utah Bankers Association (UBA) for her exemplary spirit of volunteerism and community service. UBA President Howard Headlee, said the "Heart of the Community Award," recognizes her enthusiastic spirit and loving attention to children in crisis. "We are fortunate to live in a state where a great deal of importance is placed on volunteerism and personal contribution to each other and our community. Most citizens serve their communities quietly without seeking recognition, making generous contributions of time and financial resources to a wide variety of worthy causes. The impact of Stella LeVan on so many young lives is immeasurable."

Ms. LeVan works and volunteers for the Family Support Center of Southwestern Utah which serves Iron, Kane, Beaver and Garfield Counties. Even though she has severe arthritis and is at an age when most people have retired, she works with children in sheltered care, most of whom have been removed from the custody of their parents, and all who are in crisis. Shandra Powell, director of the Family Support Center, says "She's a tireless go-getter who comforts these children by playing word games, coloring and providing basic child care. Many of them call her Grandma," she says.

In presenting the award, Ron Heaton, President & CEO, State Bank of Southern Utah, said every community needs more dedicated individuals like Stella.

Mr. Headlee said, "We have found through years of experience that somewhere between the best efforts of our institutions and the real, human needs that exist in every community, you will find unmet needs, or gaps in services. Therefore, every community needs committed and caring individuals that will step up and put these unmet needs on their shoulders and fill the gaps. When this happens, miracles happen, and that is why the Utah Bankers Association began its "Heart of the Community Award" campaign — to recognize those outstanding individuals that are willing to make the type of personal sacrifices that make our communities whole."

Like the dedicated work of the Family Support Center and Stella LeVan, the banks in Utah have been an integral part of Utah life since statehood, and they continue to be deeply involved in all aspects of the state's heritage and future. Last year banks donated over \$175 million in charitable contributions and community investments. Their employees are also major contributors, last year donating more than 110,000 hours in community service. Headlee noted that these contributions have been part of "banks giving back to their communities" over many years. "The measurement of time and money is not as important as the fact that banks have played a central role in making Utah a wonderful place to live and work," he said.

###