

**United Way of
Dutchess County**

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Press Release

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UNITED WAY OF DUTCHESS COUNTY ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN SUCCESS - \$ 1,049,132 RAISED TO DATE

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY - United Way of Dutchess County Announced today that it has already raised more than 50% of the 2007 Campaign goal, bringing in a total of \$ 1,049,132 in local Community Fund support. This announcement came at United Way's annual Halloween Luncheon held today at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel.

In making the announcement, 2007 Campaign Chair Michael H. Graham, retired Vice President of M&T Bank, stated "we still have some work to do, but I'm very pleased with the results thus far. We salute the more than 260 businesses and organizations which are running United Way workplace campaigns. They are all true community champions and I thank them for helping to build a stronger and healthier Dutchess County."

During the Halloween Luncheon, United Way highlighted their work in the area of Basic Needs. These programs, collaborations and initiatives help provide emergency food and shelter, services for victims of domestic violence or child abuse, utility assistance and United Way's Hudson Valley Region 2-1-1 program, which has already answered more than 48,000 calls for help from our region.

Mr. Brian Riddell, Executive Director of Dutchess Outreach, joined United Way's leadership at the afternoon Halloween Luncheon, and spoke about the needs in the community for emergency food and assistance services. Dutchess Outreach is one of the numerous community organizations supported by United Way's Community Fund dollars.

Several hundred United Way supporters attended the event, contributing canned goods and dried food items in support of United Way's efforts to provide basic needs services to the community. This food was delivered to Dutchess Outreach's food pantry.

January 11, 2008

United Way's Community Fund dollars raised during this Campaign will help address some of the most vital and pressing needs in Dutchess County. Through an extensive community-wide assessment, United Way works to create lasting and meaningful impact in three key areas:

- Providing Basic Needs
- Promoting Financial Stability
- Preparing Young Children for Success

United Way mobilizes community resources, and develops partnerships and initiatives to support programs which address these critical community issues. United Way's funded programs are also carefully measured for overall effectiveness in creating lasting and meaningful change in the community, and these efficiencies are then reported back to the generous community investors.

The mission at United Way of Dutchess County is to build a stronger, healthier community by raising resources and developing partnerships that make a measurable difference in people's lives. United Way's vision is to be the area's premier community-impact organization and a leader in advancing dialogue on Dutchess County's health and human care issues. Contributors recognize United Way as the best organization for their support because of the measurable results the organization has on the quality of life here in Dutchess County.

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