

# Press Release

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**For Immediate Release:** May 3, 2007

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## **UNITED WAY SURPASSES CAMPAIGN GOAL \$2,136,103 Raised Locally for Community Needs**

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY – United Way of Dutchess County announced today that financial support for the 2006-07 Campaign has reached \$2,136,103, exceeded the campaign goal set forth at the Campaign Kick-off on September 8, 2006. United Way's fiscal year ends on June 30, 2007.

"This is an extraordinary achievement", remarked Charlie North, President and CEO of the Poughkeepsie Area Chamber of Commerce and Chair of United Way of Dutchess County's 2006 Campaign. "Reaching this milestone assures that the support for United Way's valuable community programs will continue to build stronger and healthier lives here in Dutchess County. I am exceedingly proud of, and grateful for, the hundreds of caring volunteers and supporters who have made this achievement possible. During our Campaign Kick-Off, keynote speaker Wally 'Famous' Amos encouraged all of us to PULL together for United Way. This community has done just that".

The 2006 United Way of Dutchess County campaign set a goal of \$2,134,667 at the beginning of the fundraising effort, raising just shy of \$2,000,000 at the time of the campaign celebration in early December. A number of campaigns and generous gifts have been received since this event, resulting in today's announcement.

"Our United Way is continuously building on the success of our previous campaigns", commented Richard A. Mitchell, Esq., Managing Partner at Iseman, Cunningham, Riester & Hyde, and Chair of United Way of Dutchess County's Board of Governors. "The generosity of our gracious community investors, coupled with the caring power of our many corporate partners, has enabled our organization to increase Community Fund support in recent years".

United Way's Community Fund helps support programs which serve nearly 50,000 Dutchess County residents. This represents one in six people living in the community. United Way's 2-1-1 health and human services information and referral service has answered more than 27,000 calls for help in the region.

Community Fund support is essential to improving the quality of life here at home. "United Way regularly identifies the most pressing and vital issues areas in Dutchess County through a recently completed community-wide assessment", said Anne M. Beaulieu, President & CEO of United Way of Dutchess County. "United Way's community impact process ensures that our funded programs

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– supported by Community Fund dollars – serve to address the essential needs of Dutchess County, and help resolve the root causes of our health and human service challenges.”

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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