



United Way
of Greater Battle Creek

NEWS RELEASE

United Way of Greater Battle Creek

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Contact: Teresa Osborne
Director of Public Relations
269.962.9538 (cell) 269.209.8389

United Way Recognizes Outstanding Volunteers

HUB International, Duncan Aviation & Kellogg Company Receive Campaign Awards

Battle Creek, MI – United Way of Greater Battle Creek highlighted several outstanding volunteers at its annual meeting Thursday, March 12, 2009 at the Battle Creek Country Club. In all ten companies and individuals were recognized with awards for their service to the organization during the campaign and throughout the year.

Joe McCorkle, the 2008 United Way Campaign Co-chair presented the Campaign Excellence and Campaign Volunteer of the Year Awards that are selected each year by the campaign chairs.

“There were so many great companies and individuals that contributed to the success of this year’s annual campaign,” said McCorkle. “There is no way we would have topped the \$5.3 million mark without the incredible volunteers and support of more than 150 business partners.”

Two companies were honored with Campaign Excellence Awards. The first, Duncan Aviation, had the greatest campaign participation increase with 53% of their workforce contributing to the campaign, up from 36% in 2007. They exceeded their campaign goal of \$70,000 by \$23,400 bringing their total campaign contribution to \$93,400, making them one of the campaigns top five companies.

The second Campaign Excellence Award was presented to Kellogg Company which has continued to excel as the campaign’s top contributor. This year the Kellogg Company employees and retirees led the way to another record setting contribution of \$3.1 million, including a dollar-for-dollar match from the company. Kellogg exceeded their campaign goal by a resounding \$300,000 and surpassed last year’s total by \$400,000. In addition, to increase awareness for United Way nationally, Kellogg incorporated the United Way logo on 30 million packages of *Special K* cereal.

Volunteers are key to the success of the annual campaign and the Annual Meeting served as a great opportunity to recognize two of these champions. Receiving the group Campaign Volunteer of the Year award was HUB International’s Campaign Committee. This group, comprised of Maggie Campbell, Monica Beuchler, Sandy Rothwell, Laura Legris, Mickey Gray, Allison Case, Jan Spencer, Kathie Griffin and Colleen Parks, worked diligently to coordinate a fun and successful company campaign. Organizing everything from bake sales to a silent auction, they created an atmosphere of teambuilding and community spirit. HUB Internationals campaign committee was nominated by Dennis Duval, a representative of MassMutual Financial Services and United Way campaign cabinet insurance division leader.

Mary Smith from Duncan Aviation was presented with the Campaign Volunteer of the year award as an outstanding individual. Nominated by her entire campaign committee, which described her as the team's MVP, Mary helped lead the way to the Company's most successful United Way campaign to date. Selling raffle tickets up to the very last minutes of the campaign and attending nearly every employee event, regardless of the time of day or shift, Mary earned this top honor.

Other award winners included:

2008 Campaign Co-chairs – Joe McCorkle, Bank of America and Cindy Ruble, Lakeview School District
United Way Community Relations Volunteer of the Year – Kris Leatherman, Kellogg Company
United Way Finance Volunteer of the Year – Bill Pechota, National City Bank
United Way Organized Labor Volunteer of the Year – Bill Knapp, Tri County Labor Agency
United Way Community Impact Volunteer of the Year – Rick Odden, HDI Federal Center

United Way of Greater Battle Creek addresses some of our community's most pressing problems and measurably improves the lives of individuals in need by working to Advancing the Common Good, creating opportunities for a better life for all. United Way does this by raising dollars that fund more than 50 local programs operated by 30 non-profit agencies or organizations. United Way also collaborates with local organizations and people to identify and address emerging needs and issues.

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United Way of Greater Battle Creek's mission is to mobilize the caring power of our community to Advance the Common Good by measurably improve lives.

For more information, visit United Way's office at 34 W. Jackson St., Ste. 4B,
Battle Creek MI, 49017, call (269) 962-9538 or visit www.unitedwaybattlecreek.org.