



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**United Way of the National Capital Area Cuts Fees
to Give More to Area Nonprofits**

As much as \$1.5 million more in funds may be provided to communities

WASHINGTON, DC- United Way of the National Capital Area (UWNCA) announced today that it will reduce administrative fees charged to area nonprofits for fundraising by more than half beginning February 2009. The reduction may have the potential to contribute more than \$1.5 million to UWNCA member and non-member agencies to provide community services.

“In the current economic climate, nonprofits across our area are looking for creative ways to continue providing much needed services to our community”, said Angela Woods, UWNCA interim chief executive officer. “We value our agencies as partners and understand that every dollar raised plays a critical role in maintaining safety-net services to the greater Washington area. The more money we can help them raise, the more families can receive assistance.”

The announcement, made by the UWNCA Board, comes at a time when greater Washington area nonprofits are struggling to maintain fundraising levels while managing increasing demand for social and human services.

Based on the fee reduction, an organization like the Capital Area Food Bank, a UWNCA member agency, will have approximately \$20,000 additional funds measured by last years’ donations. This will allow the food bank to distribute an additional 60,000 meals to families, children and seniors throughout the Washington area.

“What United Way has done will have a profound and direct effect across the board,” said Lynn Brantley, President and CEO of the Capital Area Food Bank. “They are making it possible for programs to receive more of the donated dollars that can be put to work directly to serve the community. Indeed the change is dramatic, profound and immediate.”

Fees will be reduced for both UWNCA member and non-member agencies, with member agencies experiencing the most significant relief.

“The UWNCA Board has taken a bold step,” said Lynnwood Campbell, UWNCA board chair. “We believe, in conjunction with new leadership from Interim Chief Executive Officer Angela Woods that UWNCA is able to deliver each and every donation designated for our agencies with a minimum fee and in a timely manner.

“Increased technology and streamlined financial systems are all going to benefit the community—those who need the resources the most will receive it. Our fees have always been in line with industry standards; now they are even better. And we know it is important that the communities we serve reap that benefit. This may mean millions of dollars in services for families who need it.”

UWNCA is a community impact leader that raises funds to achieve bold goals related to health, education and income. The campaign disperses tens of millions in funds to more than 900 nonprofit partners certified by UWNCA that provide health and human service programs to Washington area residents.

About United Way National Capital Area

The UWNCA is the largest non-governmental health and human services fund provider in the Washington metro area and has been bringing together people and resources to improve lives for more than 30 years. Working with community organizations, local governments and businesses, UWNCA’s eight regional councils -- located in the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia and Southwest Maryland -- respond to critical community needs. For more information about UWNCA, visit www.unitedwaynca.org

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