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United Way campaign reaches 93% of goal – for now.

Quincy, IL – *Live United* is the new call to action of United Way of Adams County. Hundreds of volunteers and thousands of donors responded throughout this year to make the 2009 Campaign a success in one of the most difficult economic climates in decades.

On Wednesday evening, 2009 Campaign Chairman Terry Myers stood with his team of campaign volunteers announce this year's campaign results to date which are projected at \$1,111,199 dollars raised - 93% of the \$1,200,000 goal. He emphasized that this number is expected to grow and that a final figure would be revealed at United Way's annual meeting in February.

"It's difficult to express how proud I am of this community. We set this goal last spring knowing that the economy pointed to a real fund raising challenge. We set our goal with the overwhelming needs of the community in mind. Our teams did not waver in their commitment to reach our goal. We have dozens of examples of individuals and employee groups who pushed forward with enthusiasm and made this campaign a success," said Myers. "This momentum will carry us through to our final announcement in February" he added.

Getting more people involved was one of the campaign strategies and United Way saw definite success in this area. "We had more volunteers, more contributors in some areas, more committees at work in companies and more people attending our events. Our LIVE UNITED message certainly connected with the community. There was a very special sense of passion for the campaign this year and many more people are involved and committed to United Way." Myers added.

Throughout his presentation Mr. Myers gave many examples of successful campaign efforts throughout the community:

- Special Gifts from individuals and retirees reported the largest gain ever in new donors (60) and number of increased givers (116) raising \$11,455 in new funds.
- Shopko, Poage Auto Plaza, Wal-Mart, KHQA-TV and ETC Computerland all increased their employee campaigns by over 42%
- Quincy Compressor, John Wood Community College and Prince Agri-Products, expanded their campaign efforts and collectively raised nearly \$26,000 new dollars.
- In the Public Service division 41% of the accounts reported an employee increase. Blessing Health System exceeded their goal reaching \$153,687.
- ADM Alliance Nutrition not only exceeded their goal, but their employee campaign increased by 14% and their special event contributions totaled \$20,773.
- Knapheide Manufacturing despite layoffs raised \$136,548 and remains the second largest contributor to the campaign.
- Special events accounted for \$60, 710 of the \$1.2 million dollar goal and contributed an energy and focus to the 2009 campaign.

The Loaned Executive program is key to the success of each campaign. This year 15 individuals from area businesses made over 90 presentations to groups in the community and generated more than \$460,000 of the total dollars. "These individuals are vital to the campaign and this year's class brought a whole new level of energy to the campaign. We hope many of them plan to return for next year," said campaign vice-chairman, Mike Mahair.

"We are very proud of our projected total number, but we still have work to do." stressed Myers, "The total announced today includes nearly \$100,000 in estimates for about 90 accounts we are still waiting to hear from. I encourage anyone who still wants to help United Way to do so".

Planning and recruiting for the 2010 Campaign begins immediately under the leadership of Mike Mahair, President of State Street Bank.

For more information, call United Way at 217.222.5020

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