

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 8:00 P.M.**  
February 18, 2010

### **United Way of Adams County celebrates another successful year**

**Quincy, IL February 18, 2010** – More than 160 United Way volunteer leaders, representatives of partner organizations and community business and industry were present at the organization’s 72nd Annual Meeting to celebrate the progress and successes of 2009.

“United Way has much to celebrate – we’ve grown in the past year”, commented Board President Harold Marcionetti. “In 2009 United Way expanded the involvement in the campaign by adding more than 900 first time givers and putting more volunteers on the ground than before. We also had a great year with our partnerships and initiatives where United Way was awarded more than \$165,000 in grants. In addition, United Way funding of \$243,000 leveraged nearly \$1.2 million in state and federal funds and other resources.” he added.

United Way’s growing volunteer and contributor force drove the decision to expand the board of directors by four members. “Every time we have an opportunity for people to volunteer it fills quickly. As we expand our efforts around education, income and health we will need more community members working on these projects,” Marcionetti added.

During the annual meeting, the following were elected by the membership to the board of directors: Christie Dickens – Assistant Superintendent, Quincy Public Schools; Rick Halter – Senior Vice President of Credit Administration with Mercantile Bancorp; Maureen Kahn – President & CEO, Blessing Hospital; Debbie Naught – Architect, Klingner & Associates; Mike Mahair – President, State Street Bank; Tom VanNess – Account Executive, Quincy Herald Whig.

Brad Billings, David Graff, Kellie Kurre and Dennis Williams were honored as retiring board members. Each of them served the organization in leadership roles during their terms on the board.

2009 Campaign Chairman, Terry Myers recognized individuals and organizations that made extraordinary accomplishments during last year’s campaign stating, “The annual United Way Campaign is a reflection of the values, culture and character of our community. It defines what the community believes is important to us from a human services perspective, how those services can be provided most effectively

and how willing we are to provide funds to support those services. This campaign was an exercise in determination and enthusiasm. It is so uplifting to know how much members of this community care about each other,” said Myers.

Terry Myers recognized the efforts of campaign division leaders and their teams and the results of many company campaigns. “This year especially people in large and small groups rallied for the campaign with fun events ranging from cookout and bake sales to Halloween costume parties – all in the name of United Way. The fun-factor in this campaign provided a welcome relief while generating many new dollars,” he added.

Campaign Vice-Chairman Mike Mahair presented recognition to the team of Loaned Executives who carried the LIVE UNITED message to group meetings throughout the community. More than \$460,000 was raised in businesses where they made presentations.

The “LIVE UNITED AWARD” was presented to Blessing Health System and ADM Alliance Nutrition. The award recognizes companies and employee groups who demonstrate what it means to LIVE UNITED through GIVING, ADVOCATING and VOLUNTEERING. These groups have leadership level support of the annual campaign, the company and employees give a voice to community issues and promote United Way as a solution, and employees are involved year-round as active participants on committees and projects.

Mike Mahair, President of State Street Bank will serve as 2010 Campaign Chairman. He introduced Carols Fernandez, Vice President and General Manager of WGEM as the vice-chairman of the 2010 campaign.

For more information, contact the United Way office at 217.222.5020 or visit [www.unitedwayadamsco.org](http://www.unitedwayadamsco.org)

###