

Updated March 31, 2008

Press Release - March 12, 2008

For Immediate Release

United Way of Quinte Announces 2008/09 Funding Decisions

United Way of Quinte is pleased to announce their funding decisions for the 2008/2009 funding year.

50 non-profit agencies applied before the December 1st deadline, requesting \$1,630,220 to support 84 programs. These included requests from 2 new agencies, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FASTEC) and Circle of Friends with FASTEC being approved and Circle of Friends declined. Executive Director, Julia Gosson indicated that, "Circle of Friends was turned down due to the primarily religious nature of their programming. As a faith based organization, they fall outside of our eligibility parameters."

Conversely, 2 previously funded agencies, Hospice Quinte and Bancroft Community Transit did not apply for funding this year, recognizing that they were financially healthy and that other non-profits could benefit from UW support more then they could. Both agencies expressed an interest in maintaining an affiliation with United Way of Quinte and as such the funder is looking at developing an affiliate agency program and the factors that will determine that status.

These funding decisions were determined through the annual allocations process. More then 30 trained community volunteers reviewed the submissions, including 3 students from the Loyalist College Social Service Worker program. After reviewing the applications, audited financial statements, touring and interviewing the organizations, ensuring maximum collaboration and no duplications of service, the final recommendations were made to the United Way Board of Directors at their Feb 19th meeting. "We take our role as stewards of the community's dollars very seriously," said volunteer Tammy Sokolowski, Chair of the Allocations process. "Our volunteers operate in accordance with 3 main principles when reviewing applications: 1) be informed 2) be thorough 3) proceed with integrity."

"We are proud to be providing services in every region of Hastings & Prince Edward counties," added Sokolowski. By geographical region, United Way of Quinte supports 6 agencies based in North Hastings-\$111,240; 4 in Centre Hastings-\$61,300; 7 in Quinte West-\$176,800; 5 in Prince Edward County-\$43,800; and 27 in Belleville-\$687,570. While those municipalities are the physical location for the agency head office, many of the non-profits have a mandate to serve all of Hastings & Prince Edward and do provide service to other parts of the region. Other large portions of the \$1,602,504 campaign revenues were distributed through the donor choice program-\$94,500; and to the community building projects that United Way of Quinte runs directly from their offices or in partnership with other agencies-\$184,032. Examples of such initiatives are The Good Back Pack Program, Caring for Others, Winter Warmth, Labour Community Services and Outcomes Measurement to name a few.

In total United Way of Quinte approved funding for all community programs at \$1,371,231 maintaining an administrative and fundraising cost at 16 cents on the dollar which is 10% less than the national average for charities in this country.

For more information please call Julia Gosson at 613-962-9531 or Tammy Sokolowski call 613-966-5130 ext 1334.