



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: LeAnn Powers, Chief Professional Officer
512.255.6799, leann@unitedway-wc.org

United Way of Williamson County Presents Checks to Three Local Service Centers

WILLIAMSON COUNTY, Texas, June 15, 2009 – Families across Williamson County are finding themselves now more than ever needing help with food, rent and utilities. As a result, nonprofit service centers are feeling the pinch. Demand for emergency services has risen to unprecedented levels. Many of the families and individuals that are turning to these agencies are doing so for the first time. Because of the increased demand on these agencies, the Board of Directors of United Way of Williamson County (UWWC) voted to give a total of \$30,000 to three local service centers in order to help these agencies continue to make a difference in the lives of those who are in crisis. The funding comes from the UWWC's implementation of a number of budget efficiencies during the 2008-09 fiscal year that resulted in a surplus of funds.

The three major Service Centers in Williamson County - The Round Rock Area Serving Center, The Caring Place, and Hill Country Community Ministries – each received a \$10,000 check from United Way of Williamson County at an after hours gathering on Thursday, June 11, 2009. "With the economy the way it is today," commented Sue McMillin, chair of the UWWC Board of Directors, "we wanted to use these funds in a way that might help those that are struggling. Unfortunately, we don't see an end to this dire situation anytime soon, so we are pleased to be able to offer these agencies some support."

The three Service Centers receiving the monies from UWWC each assist a geographically distinct area of Williamson County. Nick Audino, Board president of Hill Country Community Ministries in Leander noted, "This generous donation could not have come at a better time. We're grateful to United Way for the confidence they have placed in us to help meet critical needs in our community."

Dr. Stephen Benold, president of the Board of Directors of The Caring Place, which serves the Georgetown area, said, "As of May, we have already given out \$40,000 more than was budgeted for direct client services. This United Way gift will be a Godsend to help us with utility bills this summer."

"The check is appreciated. The need is great and increasing for food and utility assistance," commented Lori Scott, Executive Director of the Round Rock Area Serving Center. "We are grateful for the United Way of Williamson County partnership."

The mission of United Way of Williamson County is to mobilize the caring power of the community to improve life for everyone in Williamson County. For more information visit www.unitedway-wc.org or call 512.255.6799.

#