

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: LeAnn Powers, Chief Professional Officer

512.255.6799, leann@unitedway-wc.org



United Way of
Williamson County

Local Employers LIVE UNITED for United Way of Williamson County

ROUND ROCK - In the midst of a struggling economy, employers in Williamson County have joined forces to make giving back to the community a top priority.

By mobilizing the caring power of their employees and co-workers, local workplaces have come together to raise more than \$800,000 for programs and initiatives dedicated to improving life for everyone in Williamson County.

At a thank you celebration held May 31 at Seton Medical Center Williamson, United Way of Williamson County (UWWC) recognized leaders from many local workplace campaign sites that have made an investment in education, financial stability and health programs and initiatives serving residents of Williamson County by participating in the 2010-11 annual campaign.

Incoming Board Chair Tom Shockley welcomed the group by stating, "Today celebrates what it means to LIVE UNITED. In this room you will find CEOs and executives, managers and administrative staff, and leaders of school districts, local governments, financial institutions, hospitals and healthcare providers, global corporations, local industries, and retail outlets; each of you represents the caring power of the community. Some of our campaign sites have thousands of employees, others have only a few; but what we all have in common is a desire to lend a hand to our friends and neighbors in need."

During the celebration, United Way recognized the contributions of each workplace campaign and announced the winners of the following leadership awards.

- Partner of the Year - Dell, Inc.
- Large Campaign Leadership Award (campaigns with over 1,000 employees) – H-E-B
- Mid-size Campaign Leadership Award (campaigns with 100-999 employees) – Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation
- Small Campaign Leadership Award (campaigns with less than 100 employees) – Atmos Energy
- Most Improved Campaign – City of Hutto
- Volunteer Partner of the Year – Atmos Energy

"We are grateful for the generosity shown by our workplace campaign partners," said LeAnn Powers, Chief Professional Officer of United Way of Williamson County. "Their commitment to enhancing the quality of life in our community is amazing. Because of the generosity of many local employers and their support for our United Way campaign, our partner agencies in Williamson County are able to provide job training for a laid off worker, shelter for an abused woman and her children, mentoring for a student at-risk of quitting school, or medical care for a senior citizen. To our friends and neighbors who need some extra help, support of each of our campaign partners makes a real difference."

In addition to the awards presentations, representatives and volunteers from UWWC funded agencies, including the STARS Mentoring Program of Round Rock ISD, WBC Opportunities/Meals on Wheels and Literacy Council of Williamson County, thanked the campaign leaders for their support. Each briefly shared how employee donations are making an impact on children, families, individuals and senior citizens by giving a small amount from each paycheck to support the work of United Way of Williamson County. "Thank you for your support of United Way of Williamson County," said Christopher Gonzales, Mayor Pro-tem of Taylor and Meals on Wheels Volunteer. "Because of you, I am able to visit people who really depend on a visit from a familiar face as well as a hot meal. It makes a difference in our community."

The 2011-12 campaign for United Way of Williamson County will begin in July 2011.

About United Way of Williamson County: *United Way of Williamson County is a volunteer driven, community-based, nonprofit organization with a goal to focus and unite the community to create significant lasting change that positively impacts people's lives, specifically in the areas of education, income and health. To learn more about the LIVE UNITED goals and mission of United Way of Williamson County, visit www.unitedway-wc.org or call 512.255.6799.*

#