

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: LeAnn Powers, Chief Professional Officer
(512) 255-6799, leann@unitedway-wc.org



**United Way of
Williamson County**

United Way of Williamson County Announces Increase in Giving at Annual Campaign Celebration

AARP Tax-Aide Volunteers Named Partner of the Year

ROUND ROCK (May 13, 2015) – United Way of Williamson County (UWWC) announced campaign contributions increased by 6% this year, topping more than \$1 million in pledges and donations.

The announcement was made at UWWC’s annual campaign celebration in Georgetown on May 5, 2015. This event recognizes the efforts of more than 150 local employers, community partners and funded agencies for their common commitment to improving life for tens of thousands of Williamson County residents each year.

The increase in donations and pledges to United Way of Williamson County’s annual campaign will allow the volunteer board of directors to invest more than \$755,000 in programs, services and other charities for the upcoming fiscal year. Contributions to the Community Impact Fund and United Way’s strategic programs will be used to stabilize families, help children succeed through education, and empower healthy living by increasing access to healthcare and prevention programs.

“I am honored to live in a community that boasts so many generous people who are committed to helping people change their situation and find their way to a better way of life,” said Mary Dale, UWWC Board Chair. “On behalf our community, I want to thank all of you... board members, committee members, funded agencies, our campaign partners and especially our many donors for everything you have done to change the story for Williamson County residents.”

During the celebration, awards were presented to local employers who demonstrated exceptional commitment to the goals and values of United Way of Williamson County. Frost Bank employees working in Williamson County were awarded Small Campaign Partner of the Year, while Wells Fargo employees were named as Mid-size Campaign Partner of the Year and H-E-B partners received awards for Large Campaign Partner of the Year.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers were named Partner of the Year for their collaborative efforts to expand free tax preparation services to taxpayers across the county. Volunteers were honored for their dedication to providing this essential service in Williamson County. In collaboration with United Way tax volunteers and AARP Tax-aide volunteers provided assistance to low-to-moderate income clients at sites in Cedar Park, Georgetown, Hutto, Leander, Round Rock and

Taylor as well as mobile outreach locations in Liberty Hill and Jarrell. Together, tax volunteers completed 4,111 returns and helped clients claim \$5.75 million in refunds in the most recent tax season.

The following awards were presented at the event:

- Partner of the Year – AARP Tax-Aide Volunteers
- Large Campaign of the Year Award (1,000+ employees) – H-E-B Partners
- Mid-size Campaign of the Year Award (100-999 employees) – Wells Fargo
- Small Campaign of the Year Award (less than 100 employees) – Frost Bank – Williamson County
- Volunteer Partner of the Year – TDIndustries
- Campaign Coordinator of the Year – Mike Labay, Atmos Energy
- Community Builder Awards for top three companies who increased giving by the greatest dollar amount – H-E-B, Baylor Scott & White and Wells Fargo
- Outstanding Employee Campaign Awards were also presented to the following organizations for increasing their giving by 25% or more this year: Amplify Credit Union, Cigna, City of Georgetown, H-E-B - Round Rock #1 and #2 and H-E-B – Austin 14 (1431/Bell Blvd in Cedar Park), JC Penney (Round Rock and Lakeline), R Bank, RBCFU and Target Stores in Georgetown.

For more information about United Way of Williamson County or to learn more about becoming a campaign partner, visit www.unitedway-wc.org.

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.*

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