

For Immediate Release
February 16, 2011



United Way of Greater Kansas City Announces Co-Chairs for 2011 Fundraising Campaign

(Greater Kansas City)---There's an old saying that goes something like this: "If you really want to get something done, ask the busiest person in the room to do it." It means that people who have the organization and drive, to handle multiple challenges at once, are leaders who are successful in most everything they do. With that knowledge in mind, United Way of Greater Kansas City (UWGKC) has selected two busy but successful people, to lead the 2011 United Way campaign. Peggy Dunn and Jay Lind have been named to co-chair this year's community-wide fundraising effort.

Dunn is the Mayor of Leawood, Kansas. She is the former chair of the UWGKC's Board of Trustees and previously co-chaired United Way's Tocqueville Society. She is on many civic and charitable boards including Leawood Chamber of Commerce, Children's Mercy Hospital, St. Luke's South Hospital, Truman Medical Center, Starlight Theater, Kauffman Center for Performing Arts, Union Station, Catholic Charities Foundation of Northeast Kansas, Hall Family Foundation and is involved in many other organizations too numerous to mention.

Jay Lind lives in Lee's Summit, MO. He is the financial secretary treasurer/business representative of Sheet Metal Workers, Local No. 2, a delegate for the Greater Kansas City AFL-CIO, a delegate to the Kansas City Construction and Building Trades Council, and helped devise the curriculum for the International Association of Sheet Metal Workers training program. He is involved in Skills USA, Dollars Against Diabetes, the Crayons to CAD Program, his sons' Boy Scout troop. Jay and his family are active in their children's school and are also actively involved in a newly founded church in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

While the official start of this year's United Way of Greater Kansas City fundraising campaign is still months away, Dunn and Lind are already busy working behind the scenes to make it a success. Dunn said, "We've put together a very strong, dedicated campaign cabinet. Without exception, everyone we asked to serve said yes, immediately. I think people are willing to help when they believe in the cause and many of these people are already very dedicated United Way donors. It's a testament to the value they place on the work of United Way of Greater Kansas City." Dunn added, "But the number one reason I believe this year's United Way campaign will be successful is because I have confidence in the generosity of people in our community. Time and time again, they have seen fit to step up and do whatever is needed to support the causes and people in need in our region."

Lind will be working to raise support for United Way in the labor community. Lind says, "The construction industry is like many industries, impacted by the recession. We have members who are good sheet metal workers, quality craftsmen, whose hours have been affected by the economy and some of them are struggling. One guy needs groceries, another has medical issues and a third is behind on his utilities. Everybody's needs are different, but many of them have been able to get help from programs funded by United Way." Lind added, "United Way is an organization that helps a lot of different people. The money you're giving is going to a number of

different places to help people who are struggling in a variety of ways. I think we have an obligation as people to help our neighbors and I think United Way is a great way to do it.”

The 2011 United Way campaign will officially begin in early September and will wrap-up in mid-November. Money raised during the fundraising campaign will go to support nearly 300 health and human services in the Greater Kansas City area and help fund a number of United Way community initiatives focused on education, income and health.

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For further information, contact:

Ron Howard
United Way of Greater Kansas City
(816) 559-4644