



For Immediate Release
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United Way of Greater Kansas City Honors Adele Hall for Her Lifetime Support, Establishing an Award in Her Honor

Mike Hockley Elected Chairman During United Way's 2011 Annual Meeting

(Overland Park, KS)-----United Way is an organization built on the hard work of volunteers and the generosity of people in our community. Over the years, many people have contributed to the organization's efforts to help people in Greater Kansas City, but perhaps no one has played a more significant role in helping United Way fulfill its mission than Adele Hall. That is why United Way of Greater Kansas City (UWGKC) inaugurated the *Adele Hall Spirit of Caring Award* at its annual meeting today.

In presenting her with the award, community leaders cited Adele's long-time support of numerous local charities, including United Way as both a donor and an active volunteer. In a video tribute, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius recognized Adele's passion and generosity, describing her as "the guiding force behind literally hundreds of initiatives focused on health, education and the well-being of children and families throughout Greater Kansas City."

Adele's support of United Way has been extensive over the years, including everything from stuffing envelopes and conducting door-to-door fundraising for the Women's Division of United Way in the 1960's to becoming the first woman elected president of Heart of America United Way in 1977. She was a co-founder of United Way's Tocqueville Society in Kansas City in 1986; served as vice-chair of United Way of America's board of directors; demonstrated her commitment to future generations as a charter member of United Way's Legacy Society; and provided generous support for many special United Way programs and community initiatives, through the Hall Family Foundation.

In announcing the establishment of the *Adele Hall Spirit of Caring Award*, which will be presented in her honor in future years, former UWGKC board chair Peggy Dunn said, "Adele, you are a personal role model for me, and for all of us who are gathered here to honor you today. Showing us what we can do for others is your greatest gift to us. It's the very reason we applaud your achievements, and the reason this award will carry your name not just today, but in years to come, inspiring future generations to accomplish even more."

During the business portion of the annual meeting, United Way volunteers elected Michael Hockley as chair of UWGKC's Board of Trustees for 2011-12. Hockley is a Kansas City attorney and partner in Spencer, Fane Britt & Brown, LLP. He served as a Johnson County representative when area United Ways began to explore the possibility of forming a single organization. He chaired the committee that wrote the by-laws and formalized the merger of four Kansas City area United Ways into what is now the United Way of Greater Kansas City. Joining Hockley as UWGKC officers for the coming year will be:

- Dianne Cleaver – Vice Chair
- Bridgette Williams – Secretary
- Jeff Provost – Treasurer

Elected to serve three-year terms on the UWGKC's Board of Trustees, to expire in 2014:

- Carolyn Caldwell
- Diane Cleaver
- Jo Anne Gabbert
- Darcy Howe
- Ray Kowalik
- Jeanette Prenger
- Dorothy Witherspoon
- Hannes Zacharias

Elected to serve one-year terms expiring in 2012, representing the four Community Advisory Councils were:

- Todd Krass and Dred Scott representing Eastern Jackson and Cass counties
- Paul Laures and Michele Snyder representing Johnson County
- Stacey Daniels and Leo Davis representing Kansas City, Mo.
- Allen Dillingham and Karen Sage representing the Northland

Appointed to serve as ex-officio members of the board were:

- Thomas Cranshaw - executive director of Tri-County Mental Health Services, Inc. as agency representative (three-year term)
- Jeff Lind - co-chair of the 2011 United Way fundraising campaign (one-year term).

The keynote speaker at this year's UWGKC annual meeting was author Wes Moore, who talked about the difference caring people and programs offering positive opportunities can have on a young person's life. His book, *The Other Wes Moore, One Name, Two Fates* describes the parallels between himself and another man by the same name, from the same neighborhood, who is also about the same age. The author became a Rhodes Scholar, decorated Army Captain, White House Fellow and Special Assistant to the former Secretary of State, while the other Wes Moore is serving a sentence of life in prison after being convicted of participating in the murder of a Baltimore police officer.

He talked about the many parallels in their lives, including the fact both were raised in single parent families, both of them had trouble in the classroom, hung out on similar street corners with similar crowds and both had run-ins with police, yet at critical moments of decision they each chose different paths which led them to totally different destinies.

Moore told the gathering of United Way supporters the biggest difference was that he had caring people intervene on his behalf and encourage him to take personal responsibility for his actions, while the other Wes Moore did not. Moore said, "Public servants, like teachers, mentors and volunteers who work with our youth, are just as important to our national survival as are our armed forces. Public service does not have to be an occupation, but it must be a way of life."

Also during the annual meeting, UWGKC gave away a 2011 Dyna Wide Glide motorcycle to a lucky Shareholder donor. The winner was Brian Miller, of Liberty, Missouri, who works for GEHA. The motorcycle, valued at more than \$15,000, was built at the Kansas City Harley-Davidson plant and given to United Way. This was the sixth year Harley-Davidson has donated a motorcycle to United Way in Kansas City to be used as a fundraising incentive. Shareholders, pledging at least 1% of their salaries donated more than \$4 million to United Way during last year's campaign.

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