



Heart of Florida United Way

# NEWS

Dr. Nelson Ying Center • 1940 Traylor Boulevard • Orlando, FL 32804  
Phone (407) 835-0900 • Fax (407) 244-2805

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Michele Plant – Director, Marketing & Communications  
Phone: 407-835-0900 ext. 243, Cell: 407-230-3468, Email: Michele.Plant@hfuw.org

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## UNITED WAY ANNOUNCES TOTAL DISTRIBUTION OF NEARLY \$14 MILLION TO LOCAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE PROGRAMS

ORLANDO, Fla. (May 24, 2007) – Heart of Florida United Way (HFUW) Board of Directors today approved \$9,079,546 in distributions recommended by the Fund Distribution Committee to support 161 local health and human services programs operated by 67 social services agencies/initiatives. Funding amounts were communicated to each agency after the May 24 board meeting. The funds will be distributed between July 2007 and June 2008.

In addition to funds disseminated from the annual campaign, HFUW will distribute \$4,794,851 in other monies, including designations to member and contract agencies and to other organizations. HFUW also distributes community emergency funds, and Ryan White Part B Program funds that will help treat those affected by and infected with HIV/AIDS.

“Over the past two years, Heart of Florida United Way has experienced a \$2 million increase through our annual campaign results,” said Robert H. (Bob) Brown, president and CEO. “We are very proud to have the ability to provide even greater support to Central Florida’s most critical health and human service programs. Approximately 375,000 residents in need in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties will be touched this year by those programs.”

The Fund Distribution Committee was lead by Chair Donna Templin, project manager for Walt Disney World and Vice Chair Debbie Clements, community relations manager for Progress Energy. More than 100 volunteers spent 6,600 hours over the course of 12 weeks reviewing funding requests and visiting agencies in order to evaluate each program to determine how the community’s precious limited resources would be distributed.

“We are very pleased with the results of this year’s process,” said Donna Templin. “Our volunteers worked extremely hard to ensure the community’s dollars are put to good and proper use, and that any funded program is using their allocations wisely and effectively.”

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HFUW member agencies receiving the ten highest allocations are as follows:

1. Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida Inc.	\$730,182
2. American Red Cross of Central Florida	\$555,074
3. Community Coordinated Care for Children, Inc.	\$481,621
4. The Salvation Army of Orange County	\$365,640
5. Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida, Inc.	\$361,989
6. The Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc.	\$359,617
7. BETA Center, Inc.	\$342,920
8. Community Service Center of Central Florida	\$255,020
9. Quest, Inc.	\$251,674
10. Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, Inc.	\$246,660

"United Way is an essential partner in our efforts to serve our community," said Todd Dixon, Director of Community Affairs & Adventure Services for The Center For Drug-Free Living, Inc. & Visionary Ventures. "In addition to the financial support, the endorsement of our agency and programs that comes along with being a United Way Member Agency and a funded program is invaluable. It lets residents who lack the expertise or information to evaluate individual agencies know who they can entrust with their valuable contributions."

With the distribution of allocations and designations, the 2006-07 campaign comes to a close. The 2007-2008 campaign, with Kathy Waltz, publisher of the Orlando Sentinel, serving as campaign chair, officially kicks off with a luncheon on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

For more information, call 407-835-0900 or visit [www.hfuw.org](http://www.hfuw.org).

### **About Heart of Florida United Way**

Heart of Florida United Way is Central Florida's most comprehensive health and human services charity. As the official Points of Light Volunteer Center, Central Florida's only authorized Gifts In Kind International affiliate, operator of United Way 2-1-1, Central Florida's community resource phone system, and the largest provider of funds to Central Florida's most critical health and human service programs, Heart of Florida United Way impacts more people annually than any other charity operating in the tri-county area. Heart of Florida United Way partners with local businesses, government, other charities, and individuals to increase awareness of local health and human service issues, and to inspire hope, provide options, and create possibilities for the people in our community. For more information, call (407) 835-0900 or visit [www.hfuw.org](http://www.hfuw.org).

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