



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNITED WAY OF GREATER SIMCOE COUNTY ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Barrie - January 7, 2008 - United Way of Greater Simcoe County (UWGSC) announced the creation of Community Leadership Awards for 2008 to acknowledge outstanding adult, youth or students for their contributions to the voluntary sector in Simcoe County.

For the first time ever, UWGSC has created and will open Community Leadership Awards to all citizens of Simcoe County. "Historically we have done well recognizing the contribution of internal volunteers and celebrating with our partners and supporters at the conclusion of our annual fundraising campaign," said Seija Suutari, UWGSC executive director. "However, we have not excelled at seeking out and finding the "unsung heroes" of our community - those who are not directly involved with United Way but are making an impact. We want to reach out and help recognize their achievements."

Three Community Leadership Awards have been created and are available as follows: adult (>30 yrs), one for youth (19-29 yrs) and another one for students (18 yrs and younger). "In addition to their regular involvement in volunteer activities, community leaders go that extra mile to get involved in programs and activities that benefit the communities in which they live. We are looking for nominations of individuals or groups that display leadership qualities such as initiative, creativity, dedication and have demonstrated a significant accomplishment in our sector", added Suutari.

The nomination deadline is May 15, 2008. Award recipients will be announced and formal presentations made at UWGSC Annual General Meeting in late June 2008. Specific criteria and nomination forms can be found at UWGSC's website at www.unitedwaysimcoecounty.on.ca or by calling the offices at (705) 726-2301, ext 26.

United Way of Greater Simcoe County has been making a difference in this community for 48 years. Annually United Way funded agencies touch the lives of 1 in 3 people, which equates to more than 150,000 individuals in our community. Your support allows United Way to continue this important work and reach out to those most in need. Please help us in our quest to build a better community.

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News Release