



Brant Community Rally's Around United Way to Support Member Agencies

For Immediate Release

December 11, 2008

Brantford, ON - On Thursday, December 11, 2008 approximately 150 volunteers and donors joined together at the annual Brant United Way Achievement event at the Best Western Brant Park Inn for the announcement of this year's campaign total.

For the second year in a row the Brant United Way Campaign exceeded its goal and raised \$1, 424,046.00 that will go to support its Member Agencies in Brantford and Brant County.

Brant United Way Executive Director, Dianne Austin was overwhelmed by community support. "With the economy taking a downward turn the residents of Brantford and Brant County are aware that the need in our community is growing as a result and have shown their continued support for our Member Agencies, and the individuals they support. We have such a strong network of caring citizens to depend on. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to this year's campaign, we couldn't do it without you!"

All funds raised in our community stay in our community to support the Brant United Way's Member Agencies which provide programs and services to nurture children, mentor youth, support seniors to live more independently, enable people to participate in society, and assist people during a crisis. Over 40 programs and services are directly benefiting from the contributions generated by our community. They are building a strong safety net for citizens in need.

To better address the needs in our community the Brant United Way will be funding an additional four agencies that include Big Brothers Big Sisters of Haldimand Norfolk (providing programming to Brantford), Crossing All Bridges Learning Centre, Kids Can Fly and the Literacy Council of Brantford and District. Through the programs and services that these new Member Agencies offer we will be able to assist more citizens in the Brant and Brantford community. In addition, we have been able to provide one-time funding to the De dwa dea dehs nye>s Aboriginal Health Centre to assist them in developing a new program for Aboriginal children and youth to provide instruction in aboriginal languages and traditional teachings.

"The strength of our Campaign is thanks to all the volunteers and donors who have come together to show their support and donate to Brant United Way. Our Campaign Cabinet

and Employee Campaign Coordinators are individuals with strong leadership and big hearts. Their compassion towards the Campaign made this year a true success,” said Jane Stewart, 2008 Campaign Chair.

Local business owners, volunteers and donors rallied for the announcement of this year’s Campaign total and awaited the presentation of the coveted Campaign awards. These awards are presented to the numerous volunteers and companies who work tirelessly on behalf of the United Way to raise much needed dollars for Brantford residents. The Campaign of the Year Award was presented to The Williamson Group, while S.C. Johnson and Son Ltd. received the Campaign Chairs Award. Apotex Pharmachem Inc. Raymond Industrial Equipment, Union Gas, OLG Casino Brantford, Brant Community Healthcare System, City of Brantford Employees and Millard Rouse and Rosebrugh LLP. were all recognized as top 10 accounts for the 2008 Campaign.

“It’s said that a community is judged by the way in which it supports those who can’t support themselves. This year Brantford and Brant County residents showed their community spirit and raised much needed dollars for our local residents who need it the most. I know that our donors will be happy with the programs and services that their investments are funding. Thanks again to the many volunteers and donors who contribute generously to the success of our community.” Jane Stewart, 2008 Campaign Chair.

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