

For Immediate Release

From: The United Way of Perth County
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GOAL! United Way Lights 100% Bulb

It was smiles all around at the United Way office as members of the Campaign Cabinet gathered to hear that their 2006 Campaign goal has been reached.

Led by Campaign Chair, John Bullen the Campaign volunteers were a key component in this year's success. "I feel privileged and honoured to work with such a dedicated group of people. Their compassion and community spirit is evident in all that they do. United Way volunteers truly appreciated what it means to live in a community that supports its citizens in times of crisis."

Executive Director, Ellen Balmain agreed, noting this has been a year of economic challenges throughout Perth County "Many workplaces have seen downturns in their business and unfortunately some employee groups and unions are coping with layoffs and plant closures. Achieving goal in these circumstances is particularly important as we know that the current economic challenges will only increase the need for services provided by agencies receiving United way funding."

With this in mind, the 2006 campaign is still ongoing, with some businesses launching their payroll deduction programs this month. It is not too late as well, for individuals to "make a difference" with their donation to the 2006 campaign.

Fortunately there were more bright spots than negative indicators in this year's campaign. Leadership giving continued the strong trend it has shown over the past few years, with over 270 individuals giving at levels in excess of \$500. Many companies showed dramatic increases in their employee payroll campaigns.

Visiting the workplaces was a highlight for this year's Campaign Chair. "Workplace donations make up the majority of the Campaign and celebrating the achievements of our workplace supporters was a real highlight for me," stated Mr. Bullen.

The people of Perth County have demonstrated a true commitment to their neighbours and to the health and welfare of the community. The staff and volunteers of the United Way would like to thank everyone who has made a difference this year.

For more information about this release, contact Ellen Balmain at 519-271-7730

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