

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **United Way celebrates *A Night of Distinction* in St. Tammany**

**(St. Tammany)** On Thursday, May 27, United Way serving St. Tammany will ceremoniously end their 2009-10 Annual Campaign with “A Night of Distinction,” a Thank You dinner honoring their top contributors, volunteers and corporate sponsors. The event will take place at 6:00 p.m. at Benedict’s Plantation in Mandeville.

Parish President Kevin Davis will be honored as the 2009 United Way Hidden Hero for St. Tammany. Davis has served United Way in the past as Advisory Council President and Leadership Council Chair, and currently as Honorary Council Member and Board of Trustees Member for Greater New Orleans.

“United Way represents a mission and a vision worth investing in,” says Davis. “The idea of creating partnerships in communities to benefit everyone is something in which I strongly believe. Helping people to help their own community raises the standard of everyone involved. I am proud to have worked with United Way for more than seven years, both in a leadership capacity and as a member of St. Tammany Parish Government.”

St. Tammany Parish Government has been very involved with United Way over the last several years, especially in their annual fundraising drive, according to Davis. In the last two years alone, 162 employees of St. Tammany Parish Government donated almost \$20,000.

“Although we fell a little short of our \$850,000 goal this year, raising a total of \$806,655, our donor base in St. Tammany increased by more than 142 persons and more than \$14,500 new dollars were raised over that raised in the previous year,” says United Way’s Executive Director, Shirleen Carter. “Seven new businesses came on board to support United Way’s campaign efforts in St. Tammany this year and more than nineteen businesses increased their giving by more than \$44,500.”

Despite the campaign’s shortfall, all community partner agencies are expected to receive the same amount of funding as last year, and not experience additional shortfalls.

Chris Kaufmann of Slidell served as St Tammany’s 2009 Campaign Chairman alongside Alexis Hocevar, 2009 Campaign Chair for United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area. United Way serving St. Tammany is a regional office of United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area.

### **About United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area**

United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area is advancing the common good. By partnering with donors, employers, nonprofits, faith groups and government, United Way brings a coordinated approach to solving community problems in Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington Parishes. For more information, please call 504.822.5540 or visit [www.unitedwaynola.org](http://www.unitedwaynola.org). You can become a fan of United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area at [www.facebook.com/UnitedWayNola](http://www.facebook.com/UnitedWayNola) or follow us on twitter: @UnitedWayNola.