



# NEWS

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **More Than \$17.7 Million Raised for Heart of Florida United Way Community Programs**

*Local Business Leaders Recognized for Contributions; Funds Will Support  
Critical Programs*

**ORLANDO, Fla. (June 6, 2017)** – In less than one year, hundreds of local individuals and businesses raised **\$17,714,972** for Heart of Florida United Way’s 2016-2017 annual workplace giving campaign.

Last year, employees from across Central Florida signed up for payroll deductions through workplace giving campaigns in order to invest in community programs supported by Heart of Florida United Way. This year, Walt Disney World, Publix Super Markets and Lockheed Martin were honored as “Million-Dollar Champions” for raising \$3.5 million, \$3.4 million and \$1 million, respectively.

“The generosity shown by local businesses, organizations and individuals in this year’s campaign is the reason we’re able to make such a positive collective impact in our community,” said John Pisan, 2016-2017 Heart of Florida United Way Campaign Chair and Senior Vice President and Regional Managing Director, Wells Fargo Wealth Management. “The funds raised over the past year will be invested in critical programs aimed at education, income, health and basic needs – programs that will help improve the lives of residents in our own community which, in turn, will improve our economy as a whole.”

Nearly 400 Central Florida businesses organized workplace campaigns and fundraising events to benefit United Way. Individuals and companies were recognized for their exemplary efforts in this year’s campaign. Specific company and individual recognitions included:

- “Chairman’s Award” – Orange County Government
- “Phenomenal Executive Champion” – Malcolm Barnes with Duke Energy
- “Spirit Award” – Costco Wholesale
- “Exceptional Employee Campaign Managers” – Melissa Dukes with OUC – The *Reliable* One and Chanda Jordan with Enterprise Holdings.

Top corporate partners include Orange County Government with more than \$500,000, UPS Florida, SunTrust Bank of Central Florida, City of Orlando, Florida Hospital, AT&T all with more than \$400,000 each; Tupperware Brands Corporation and Wells Fargo raising more than \$300,000 each; Enterprise Holdings Inc., Darden Foundation, Adventist Health System, CNL Financial Group, Duke Energy and OUC- The *Reliable* One each raising more than \$200,000; and Bank of America, University of Central Florida, FedEx Corporation, CenturyLink, PCL Construction Services, Orlando Health, Costco Wholesale, Siemens Energy, Target Corporation and Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster Kantor & Reed, PA raising more than \$100,000.

“For the past 77 years, United Way’s annual giving campaigns have impacted the lives of hundreds of thousands of Central Floridians,” said Jeff Hayward, president and CEO of Heart of Florida United Way. “Thanks to the generosity exemplified by everyone involved in this year’s workplace giving campaign, millions of dollars will help our neighbors in need.”

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

*Heart of Florida United Way (HFUW) is Central Florida’s most comprehensive health and human services charity and the largest provider of funds to the region’s most critical health and human service programs. Last year, it raised and managed \$24.4 million throughout Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties. HFUW is working to advance the common good by focusing on education, income, health and basic needs. It operates United Way 2-1-1, Central Florida’s information and assistance, crisis, suicide and referral helpline; Volunteer Resource Center; Gifts In Kind Center; Emergency Homelessness Services; and the Ryan White Part B program, which administers more than \$2 million to provide HIV/AIDS services and referrals. HFUW impacts more than 650,000 individuals annually through its direct service and funded programs. United Way partners with local businesses, government, other charities to increase awareness of local health and human service issues and to inspire hope, provide options and create possibilities for people in need. Visit [www.HFUW.org](http://www.HFUW.org) for more information, or call (407) 835-0900.*

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