



**NEWS RELEASE
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KISHWAUKEE UNITED WAY AWARDED CERTIFICATION

United Way completes National Membership Requirements

DeKalb, IL (date) – 7/17/08

Dawn Littlefield, Executive Director, announced that the Kishwaukee United Way has successfully completed all of the United Way of America membership requirements by their respective due dates. The requirements include Membership Requirements Certification, Membership Investment, the Database 2 Survey of Total Resources Generated (a survey that captures the full extent of a community's resource development efforts during the year) and a report of the United Way's annual income and expenses. Over and above the annual requirements, Kishwaukee United Way will complete a mandatory organizational self-assessment in August of this year, as part of this process.

"The membership requirements must be certified annually in order for us to remain a member of the United Way," stated Executive Director Littlefield. "It is important for us to maintain high standards of accountability, and this is part of the process to confirm that our operations are transparent and meet or exceed United Way membership requirements."

The board of Kishwaukee United Way reviewed and approved the Membership Requirements Certification at a recent Board Meeting. The certification mandates completion of 13 requirements for United Way of America membership along with verification of the status of 44 indicators that a United Way demonstrates the intent of the membership requirements.

"It is critical that all United Ways meet the highest standards and verify on paper that they have conformed to the requirements of membership in the United Way system," said Brian Gallagher, President and CEO, United Way of America. "We applaud Kishwaukee United

Way's accountability efforts that support its important work to improve lives and build a stronger community.”

As an integral part of DeKalb County human services, Kishwaukee United Way works to advance the common good by analyzing needs of our community, partnering others to create strategies to create lasting community changes, and to improve lives for the people in our area. United Way's vision is to engage everyone citizens in our community to LIVE UNITED – to give, advocate and volunteer to improve lives.

Kishwaukee United Way is part of a system of 1,286 United Ways. Each local United Way must complete United Way of America's requirements annually in order to retain its United Way of America membership. For more information about Kishwaukee United Way, visit our website at www.kishwaukeeunitedway.org or call 815.756.7522.

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