



**United Way
of Monroe County**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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United Way's Lessow Receives Workforce Development Award

Barry Lessow, Executive Director of United Way of Monroe County, was honored with the Workforce Development Award at the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 27th. This award recognizes individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to the education and training of Bloomington's future workforce.

While presenting the award, Christy Steele, President and CEO of the Chamber, remarked, "Barry is passionate about changing people's lives and has provided leadership in local workforce initiatives. He envisioned and put into action the Workforce Preparation Network, which provided funding for various workforce initiatives." Speaking about the importance of workforce development, Steele commented, "In the long term, our community's economic and general success will be strongly correlated to the quality of our workforce. Encouraging innovative and thoughtful programs to improve the quality of our workforce is paramount."

After receiving the award, Lessow said, "It is an honor to be recognized by the Chamber for United Way's strong commitment to workforce development. By engaging the community and working with key partners in business, education, industry, social services, government and labor, we can lead our community to a stronger future"

United Way of Monroe County is a nonprofit organization that improves people's lives by addressing critical needs today and working to reduce those needs tomorrow. Through its Community Care Fund, it allocates resources to 27 member agencies that address the most pressing human service issues in Monroe County. United Way can be reached at 812-334-8370 or www.monroeunitedway.org.

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