



## **UNITED WAY OF MONROE COUNTY RAISES \$1,421,693**

United Way of Monroe County celebrated the conclusion of its 2007-2008 community campaign on Monday, April 14. The campaign raised \$1,421,693.

During a Monday afternoon campaign partner appreciation reception, Barry Lessow, United Way Executive Director, commended those who helped with the campaign. “This year we emphasized the impact United Way has on the community. Along with our partner agencies, we work every day to ensure that we are meeting today’s critical human service needs and making the investments now that will reduce those needs in the future. We appreciate the work of our campaign chairs, their cabinet, and the workplace campaign coordinators. We are grateful that, in this uncertain economic climate, the community responded and brought us so close to our \$1.44 million goal. We welcomed many new donors this year whose generosity will be felt throughout the year. Across the board, our individual and corporate donors recognize that every dollar counts and we value their strong and continuing support.”

Campaign Co-Chairs Kevin Osborne, Business Development Officer at the IU Credit Union and Alisa Wright, CEO of BioConvergence, remarked that, “We were so gratified to see the response of local donors. It takes individuals, organizations, and businesses coming together, and that is exactly what happened. The impact of this generosity will allow United Way and its 26 partner agencies to help people create lasting improvements in their lives.”

Indiana University raised a record \$654,317, exceeding last year’s contributions from IU employees. IU’s Campaign Co-Chairs were Gwyn Richards, Dean of the Jacobs School of Music, and Heidi Gealt, Director of the IU Art Museum.

Jim Grandorf, Clinical Professor at Kelley School of Business, chaired the Vanguard Leadership Giving program, which recognizes gifts of at least \$1,000. This year, there were 382 leadership gifts totaling \$638,076, which reflects a 2% increase in leadership giving.

Several workplaces received awards for their outstanding contributions to the campaign. Indiana University, Bloomington Hospital, and General Electric received the Pillar Award for each raising \$50,000. A complete list of award winners is available at [www.monroeunitedway.org](http://www.monroeunitedway.org).

Kirk White was presented with the Mary Alice Gray Memorial Award for Extraordinary Service to United Way. White has served several years as manager of the United Way campaign on IU's Bloomington campus, and has led the campaign to extraordinary growth in giving and involvement. White is the Director of Community Relations at Indiana University.

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 26 member agencies that address the most pressing human service needs in Monroe County. United Way can be reached at 812-334-8370 or [www.monroeunitedway.org](http://www.monroeunitedway.org).

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