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United Way of the Greater Seacoast awards over \$22,100 through Community Response Fund program in 2008

PORTSMOUTH ó Great ideas don't always wait for the next time a grant application is due, that's why United Way of the Greater Seacoast awarded \$22,100 to 4 area nonprofits during 2008 through the Community Response Fund. The Community Response Fund helps area nonprofit agencies respond quickly to emerging or emergency needs, and is made possible exclusively through an annual \$75,000 contribution from Highland Hardwoods in Brentwood, NH.

Applications, considered by a volunteer committee on a monthly basis, include opportunities either not identified during United Way's 3-year grant cycle that cannot wait until the next grant cycle, or are from agencies in urgent need of funds due to man-made or natural disasters. The fund is a part of United Way of the Greater Seacoast's diverse community investment strategy, which also includes Client Service Grants providing operating funds to agencies and Strategic Impact Investments for collaborative groups working towards long-lasting solutions to community issues.

Focused on supporting the community's building blocks for a better life, United Way of the Greater Seacoast provides critical leadership and support across a range of community needs falling under the scope of education, income and health. United Way works to create long-lasting changes by addressing the underlying causes of problems, not just addressing the symptoms.

Recipients of Community Response Fund Grants for 2008 are:

- **City Year NH:** \$7,000 for a pilot of the "Young Heroes" Program being launched in the Seacoast in 2008.
- **Exchange City:** \$3,975 to help the start-up of the "Children's Giving Center", a program to instill a strong sense of philanthropy in children.
- **Autism Respite Resource Outreach:** \$5,000 to support operations and scholarships for the drop-in center.
- **Seacoast Youth Services:** \$6,215 for costs related to starting up the Adolescent Substance Abuse Program, a collaboration of the schools and the local mental health center to help enhance comprehensive support for youth and their families.

United Way of the Greater Seacoast (UWGS) is a locally governed nonprofit organization working to advance the common good by focusing on the building blocks for a good life – education, income and health. UWGS develops, supports and works in groundbreaking partnerships in the Greater Seacoast region of NH and Southern Maine to create long-lasting changes that prevent problems from happening in the first place and create opportunities for a better life for all. For more information, visit www.uwgs.org.