

For Immediate Release
February 18, 2009



United Way of Greater Kansas City Announces Co-Chairs for 2009 Kansas City Area United Way Campaign

(Greater Kansas City)---They share a passion for helping others. They believe we can be more effective working together, than working alone. David Fowler and Ed Tervol, Jr. have both seen the impact of United Way and they are ready to spread the word and encourage everyone to support the important work the organization does in our community.

David Fowler, managing partner of KPMG LLP in Kansas City, Mo., and Ed Tervol, executive board member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers at Honeywell, have agreed to co-chair the 2009 Kansas City area United Way campaign. Both men were actively involved in last year's community-wide fundraising effort that raised a record \$40.5 million. Tervol served as labor co-chair for the campaign and Fowler led United Way's Pacesetter campaign, which raised more than \$4.7 million before the official kickoff of the fall fundraising effort.

Fowler is a life-long resident of the Kansas City area, and has been an active United Way volunteer for a number of years. In addition to leading the Pacesetter campaign last year, Fowler served as chair of United Way's Leadership Giving in 2004 and 2005. David and his wife Beth co-chaired the United Way Tocqueville Society in 2007. He is also a past board member of Heart of America United Way.

Community leaders say Fowler is a great choice to lead the United Way campaign in these difficult times. They describe him as "someone who brings great enthusiasm along with sense of humor when dealing with serious issues. He inspires people to do more. When faced with a challenge, he rolls up his sleeves and finds a way to get the job done."

In describing the task ahead, Fowler said, "There is no doubt this will be a challenging year. The economy is putting a few hurdles in our path that we must overcome. We can, and will, find a way to get past them, because the number of people turning to programs funded by United Way for help grows larger every day. We will be creative, persuasive and work even harder, because our success will impact many lives." Fowler added, "I'm honored to serve as co-chair of this year's Kansas City area United Way campaign and look forward to working with Ed Tervol and our team of volunteers."

Tervol grew up in Independence, Mo., and now lives in Cass County, Mo. As a union representative at Honeywell, he has seen United Way funded agencies help a number of his fellow co-workers when they experienced tough times. When a member of his own family turned to a United Way funded program for mental health counseling, Tervol decided it was time to do more than just be a contributor. He wanted to become a community advocate for United Way. Tervol got involved in a big way, serving as labor co-chair of the 2008 fundraising campaign.

Tervol said, "Asking people to give to United Way last year was a humbling but rewarding experience, especially with the struggling economy. We knew that more people than ever would need help and we were falling short of our goal. We re-doubled our efforts, and the community responded to our appeal for help." Tervol added, "This year promises to be an even greater challenge, but I plan to do everything I can to convince people to give to United Way because the many programs it supports are crucial to the health and well-being of our community."

Fowler and Tervol are in the process of recruiting community volunteers to serve on United Way's Campaign Cabinet. Fowler said, "We are looking for business and community leaders who are respected and well-known in the community, who share our passion for helping others and are willing to work for the common good of the community as a whole."

The 2009 Kansas City area United Way campaign will officially begin on Thursday, September 10, with a kickoff breakfast at the Downtown Kansas City Marriott Hotel. During the breakfast, Fowler and Tervol will announce the 2009 campaign goal and officially launch the fall fundraising effort.

For further information, contact:

Ron Howard
United Way
(816) 559-4644