

Immediate Release



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United Way of Rhode Island Opens Store at Exchange City

Only store at an Exchange City location dedicated to teaching importance of philanthropy

Providence, RI (June 12, 2009) – United Way of Rhode Island officially opened the first store at Exchange City devoted to philanthropy. Located at the Johnson & Wales Harborside Campus in Providence, United Way generously donated \$50,000 to support the inaugural Exchange City program.

Operated by Education in Action, Exchange City is both a hands-on learning lab site and a curriculum that is used in the classroom and in the home. It combines a seven-week classroom curriculum with a state-of-the art interactive government and free enterprise laboratory. The Exchange City experience helps middle and high school students learn and apply rigorous academic standards in math, civics, social studies, language arts and technology in real-life roles as citizens of their very own mini-town.

During their Exchange City experience, students who work in United Way's store will have the unique opportunity to learn about philanthropy while managing a store dedicated to giving, advocating and volunteering.

In recognition of United Way becoming Education in Action's newest community partner and the official sponsor of the Exchange City "Giving Center," Anthony Maione, President and CEO of United Way of Rhode Island, was presented a resolution by the student Mayor of the Day at Exchange City, Clifton Johnson, a 9th grader at the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program.

"We hope Exchange City students will come to appreciate the importance of giving back at an early age," said Maione. "It's about volunteering of our time and talents, advocating for the causes we believe in and giving of our financial resources to advance the common good of all. Only if we LIVE UNITED in our determination to make things better for all, will our country be that great place we want to be for ourselves and the generations that will follow."

Also in attendance were Edwin Pacheco, executive director of Education in Action; David Suvall, chair of Education in Action's Board of Directors; and Dr. Irving Schnieder, President of Johnson & Wales University's Providence Campus.

About United Way of Rhode Island

United Way of Rhode Island has been working to improve the quality of life in Rhode Island communities for over 80 years. UWRI's mission is to mobilize the caring power of the community to improve the lives of people in need and address the issues Rhode Islanders care most about. United Way's goal is to create long-lasting changes that prevent problems from happening in the first place. We believe that all Rhode Islanders deserve the opportunity to have a better life, as when any one of us succeeds, we all succeed. At United Way, we refer to this as advancing the common good. For more information, visit www.LIVEUNITEDri.org.