

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release



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Caption: Dr. Irving Schneider, left, president of Johnson & Wales' Providence Campus, poses with Anthony Maione, President and CEO of United Way of Rhode Island.

Photo by Keri-Lyn Ducharme/United Way of RI

Homelessness Prevention Fund receives key donation

Johnson & Wales University praised for \$7,500 gift

Providence, RI (Feb. 2, 2009): Less than 10 days after United Way of Rhode Island launched its three-month awareness and fundraising effort to raise money to prevent homelessness, Johnson & Wales University stepped up to the plate with a \$7,500 donation to the newly formed *United Way Fund to Prevent Homelessness in Rhode Island*.

Dr. Irving Schneider, president of Johnson & Wales' Providence Campus and a member of the United Way of Rhode Island Community Advisory Board, announced the gift. "Johnson & Wales University has a long history of being involved in affordable housing, homelessness prevention and supportive educational efforts," said President Schneider. "After meeting with Johnson & Wales' Local Initiatives for Neighboring Communities (LINC) members, we earmarked our philanthropy dollars to assist those who are most vulnerable by addressing this critical community need."

“This generous donation and quick response from Johnson & Wales is a home run for us,” said Anthony Maione, President and CEO of United Way of Rhode Island. “This is very important money because it will go directly to keeping people out of shelters and in their homes this winter.”

United Way of Rhode Island (UWRI) responded to the urgent call for need on Jan. 12 with the announcement of the community-wide effort, the *United Way Fund to Prevent Homelessness in Rhode Island*. As the recession deepens in the coming months, projections show many more Rhode Islanders will become at risk of losing their homes.

One hundred percent of the contributions made to the Fund will be distributed directly to people who need assistance to meet rent, mortgage and utilities. United Way also announced that the organization will match contributions to the Fund dollar-for-dollar up to \$100,000 between now and March 31.

“This is an issue that is not going away any time soon,” Maione added. “We need to keep drawing attention to what is occurring currently in our community in hopes of affecting change.”

Anybody can help support the *United Way Fund to Prevent Homelessness in Rhode Island*: Credit card contributions may be made by dialing 2-1-1 or online at www.LIVEUNITEDri.org or by mailing a check payable to the *United Way Fund to Prevent Homelessness*, 50 Valley Street, Providence, RI 02909.

Anyone in need of assistance can visit www.211ri.org or dial 2-1-1, United Way’s confidential, around-the-clock health and human services hotline staffed by information-referral professionals.

About United Way of Rhode Island

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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.

About Johnson & Wales University

Johnson & Wales University, founded in 1914, is a nonprofit, private institution. A recognized leader in career education, we offer accredited degrees in business, hospitality, culinary arts, technology and education. With a diverse student body of more than 16,000 graduate and undergraduate students, representing all 50 states and 89 countries, JWU prepares students for personal and professional success by integrating rigorous academics and professional skills, community leadership opportunities and our unique career education model. The university is committed to urban revitalization and thoughtful historic renovation. Through active civic participation and by offering unique learning opportunities, JWU improves the quality of life in its campus communities in Providence, R.I., North Miami, Fla., Denver, Colo., and Charlotte, N.C. For more information visit www.jwu.edu.