



## NEWS RELEASE

For more information:  
Ashley DeSimone  
Project Manager, Public Relations  
United Way of Rhode Island  
401-444-0645  
ashley.desimone@uwri.org

*For Immediate Release*

### **United Way of RI launches Young Leaders Circle**

**Providence, RI** (September 22, 2008) – The United Way of Rhode Island (UWRI) launched its Young Leader’s Circle at a reception held at the Johnson & Wales Culinary Museum. Over 80 people attended to express their interest in supporting the work of United Way of Rhode Island. Young Leaders Circle (YLC), specifically targets young professionals who want to get involved in the community and advance the common good of all Rhode Islanders. The mission of this group is to engage young Rhode Islanders in creating positive impact in our community through education, volunteering, advocacy, and philanthropy. United Ways across the country have been establishing similar groups to engage young leaders in the work of the organization.

“The Young Leaders Circle is a unique group that cultivates its members' relationships and involvement with United Way and in doing so, creates an excitement around philanthropy for Generations X and Y,” said UWRI President and CEO Anthony Maione.

"Reaching out to other young professionals is truly the next step in our growth as an organization and as a catalyst for social change," said Kyle Bennett, one of the co-leaders of the new YLC. "We're sure that there are many young people out there who share our vision of a better Rhode Island for everyone and who will commit the time to join us and share with us their ideas, energy and talents."

Added YLC co-leader Suzy Alba, “We're thrilled to be providing opportunities for members to network with other individuals who are interested in making a difference. Throughout the year we'll be offering workshops, special events and fulfilling volunteer opportunities. It's certainly our hope that working with YLC will inspire our members to assume leadership roles at United Way and in communities across Rhode Island.”

“We had a blast at the opening reception for Young Leaders! It was a great way to network with other young professionals, meet some really great people who shared similar interests and learn more about the important work of United Way,” said Hillary Lesperance, Project Manager at Big

50 Valley Street  
Providence, RI 02909  
phone 401.444.0600  
fax 401.444.0635  
www.uwri.org



Fish, a sales and promotions agency. "I am already looking forward to the next Young Leaders event!"

United Way's YLC is looking for committed, compassionate and generous individuals dedicated to making a positive impact in Rhode Island to become members. For more information please email [youngleaders@uwri.org](mailto:youngleaders@uwri.org) or visit [www.liveunitedri.org](http://www.liveunitedri.org).

United Way of Rhode Island (UWRI) has been working to improve the quality of life in Rhode Island 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. Its goal is to create long-lasting changes that prevent problems from occurring. UWRI believes that all Rhode Islanders deserve the opportunity to have a better life, as when any one of us succeeds, we all succeed. It's what United Way refers to as advancing the common good.