



United Way  
of Pioneer Valley



## Media Advisory

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### **United Way of Pioneer Valley Honors Leaders in the Community on Wednesday, June 17** *Annual Celebration Recognizes UWPV Donors, Community Partners and Volunteers who “Connect The Community”*

**Agawam, MA** – United Way of Pioneer Valley will be presenting 8 awards to local leaders in the community during their Annual Meeting & Celebration on Wednesday, June 17 at 5:15 p.m. at Chez Josef in Agawam. The event is hosted by MassMutual Financial Group, Health New England, Excel Dryer, City of Springfield Department of Health & Human Services, and Jennifer Endicott.

Azell Cavaan, Chief Communications Officer for Springfield Public Schools and Waleska Lugo-DeJesus, Director of the Healing Racism Institute of Pioneer Valley will serve as MCs.

The community leaders receiving awards include:

- **United Personnel** (Champions of Hope award)
- **Community Foundation of Western Mass. and YMCA of Greater Springfield** (Kevin Hamel award – Community Building)
- **Nancy Urbschat of TSM Design** (Community Connector award)
- **Jessica Prokop** (Volunteer of the Year award)
- **Anthony Jianaces and Kylie LaPlante of Monson Savings Bank** (Kevin O’Hare award)
- **Dr. Louis Abbate, President Emeritus of Willie Ross School for the Deaf** (Spirit of Caring award)

Each award recipient was carefully selected based on criteria including leadership and compassion, community engagement, integrity, core values and community service. In addition to awarding local leaders, United Way of Pioneer Valley will be recognizing companies and organizations that have shown extraordinary support during the 2014-2015 fundraising campaign, and recognizing individual Employee Campaign Managers (ECMs) who head up United Way campaigns in their workplace.

## **Photo/Interview Opportunities:**

Local media will have the opportunity to speak with award recipients, speakers and attendees. Additional photo and interview opportunities can be scheduled on request by calling Andrea Gauvin at (413) 693-0239.

## **Event Schedule:**

### **Wednesday, June 17**

- 4:45 p.m.: Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors
- 5:00 p.m. : Red carpet event and photoshoot for Employee Campaign Managers
- 5:15 p.m. : Attendees arrive
- 6:00 p.m. : Program begins

### **About United Way of Pioneer Valley**

United Way of Pioneer Valley mobilizes people and resources to strengthen communities. UWPV targets the community's most pressing needs and focuses resources, agency partnerships and the energy of volunteers to create measurable results. To invest, volunteer or for more information, call United Way of Pioneer Valley at (413) 737-2691 or visit [www.uwpv.org](http://www.uwpv.org).

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