

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: MaryAnne Wuennecke, 509-581-3945 or  
[mwuennecke@uwbfco.org](mailto:mwuennecke@uwbfco.org)



United Way of  
Benton & Franklin Counties

April 23, 2019

### **United Way announces 2018 Campaign results at luncheon** *Outgoing board chair named Volunteer of the Year*

KENNEWICK, Wash—Local donors contributed more than \$3.1 million to address needs in our communities through United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties' 2018 Campaign. This campaign marked the organization's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The organization revealed the campaign total of \$3,160,989 at its annual LIVE UNITED Awards Ceremony and Celebration earlier today. The 2018 campaign fundraising year ran from April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019.

Funds raised during this 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year help improve lives in our community by focusing on the areas of greatest need, including education, health, financial stability and basic needs.

The event also honored businesses and individuals for their support throughout the Campaign. Dan Richey, Framatome and United Way's Board Chair, was named Distinguished Volunteer of the Year. This award recognizes an individual for extended and exemplary support of the agency's mission. Richey has provided more than 300 hours of volunteer support to our United Way.

Leidos was honored as the Initiative Partner of the Year, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation as the Small Business Partner of the Year, and Washington River Protection Solutions as the Corporate Partner of the Year. Additionally, the Kennewick School District received an award as the company with the Largest Increase in Campaign Participation, and RBC Wealth Management received the Largest Employees Giving Per Capita award. Twenty businesses were recognized as the Top 20 Most Generous Workplaces for their commitment to giving back to our community.

Board member Staci West, Bechtel, received a new award as the Community Impact Leader for her leadership in creating the inaugural Festival of Trees event that raised nearly \$80,000 for local hunger and homelessness.

The event was sponsored by Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 598, Abadan Printing, and the Three Rivers Convention Center.

###

### **About United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties**

United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties strives for a community where all individuals and families achieve their potential through education, financial stability and healthy lives. We partner with local nonprofits, businesses, and government and social service agencies to address our community's greatest needs and build pathways for individuals and families to independence and happiness.