

# NEWS RELEASE

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## United Way Board, Volunteers Prepare For Campaign

The Stillwater Area United Way campaign kicks off in less than one month, and board members, employees, internal company campaign coordinators and volunteers are already fired up and planning an internal kickoff rally.

While the annual public campaign begins September 17<sup>th</sup>, the internal pep-rally is set for August 27<sup>th</sup>. The event will feature key motivational and informational speakers, a debut of the 2009 campaign video, inspiring United Way agency stories, a fundraising brainstorming session and the OSU Cheerleaders to energize the crowd.

“This is something new we are implementing to help the key drivers of our campaign start off with a bang,” said Sheri Carter, United Way Director. “We want all of our volunteers to leave the rally as energized and excited as our entire board is. Everyone will meet other volunteers from their campaign division and have time to brainstorm fundraising ideas, so that they hit the ground running on September 17<sup>th</sup> with plans already in place.”

Speakers for the event include Teri Smith of Quebecor, campaign co-chair; Paul Vela of ONG, campaign co-chair; Sheri Carter; Natalea Watkins, life-long United Way volunteer; John Bartley of Community Escrow & Title; and Scott Jones of Stillwater National Bank.

“We are all excited, ready and have all of our support materials already in place,” Vela said. “Success truly does require the entire community pulling together even before the actual campaign begins. The video is finalized and was donated by OSU’s Institute for Teaching & Learning Excellence. The Public Service Announcements are ready to go and will be run free of charge by Suddenlink. Over 40,000 brochures are printed and ready thanks to the generous printing donation of Quebecor and design contribution of Beacon PR.”

Stillwater Area United Way’s 2009 campaign officially begins September 17<sup>th</sup> during the Day of Caring, a day when hundreds of Stillwater area citizens join together to accomplish city-wide service projects from painting and landscaping to repairs and construction. Fifty-five projects are slated for this year with more coming in every week.

For more information about Stillwater Area United Way, the upcoming campaign or how you can get involved, please visit [stillwaterunitedway.org](http://stillwaterunitedway.org) or call 405-377-2161.

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**Photo Caption:** United Way leaders review the 2009 LIVE UNITED brochure proof for this year’s campaign. Quebecor donates the brochures annually. Pictured are (L to R): Teri Smith, campaign co-chair; Sheri Carter, director; Glenn Haven, Quebecor representative; and Paul Vela, campaign co-chair.

