



**United Way
of Monroe County**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 31, 2008

United Way Earns National Certification

Barry Lessow, Executive Director of United Way of Monroe County, announced that the agency has successfully completed all 57 United Way of America membership criteria, including the 13 requirements and 44 other indicators.

“It is important for us to maintain a high standard of accountability and this is part of the process to document that our operations meet or exceed United Way membership criteria requirements,” stated Lessow. “These membership standards must be certified annually in order for us to remain a member of the United Way system. The requirements have become more stringent over time, and we appreciate that additional level of accountability because it provides assurance to the public that our organization is strong.”

“It is critically important that all United Ways meet the highest standards and verify on paper that they have conformed to the stringent requirements of membership in the United Way system,” stated Brian Gallagher, President and CEO, United Way of America. “We applaud and congratulate United Way of Monroe County for demonstrating their commitment.”

United Way of Monroe County is a nonprofit organization that improves people’s lives by addressing critical needs today and working to reduce those needs tomorrow. Through its Community Action Fund, it allocates resources to 26 member agencies that address the most pressing human service needs in Monroe County.

United Way can be reached at 812-334-8370 or www.monroeunitedway.org.