

NEWS RELEASE

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United Way
Thomas Jefferson Area

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: Nominations Open for United Way Awards of Excellence

The United Way Awards of Excellence celebrate and recognize local nonprofit leaders and boards of directors for outstanding achievement in the management, leadership and governance of their organizations.

Nominations are now open for the 2011 United Way Awards of Excellence. Once again volunteer boards of directors will be recognized for their leadership with our nonprofits. And, new this year, the United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area seeks to recognize an outstanding staff member in a local nonprofit, other than an Executive Director/President. "This is a change from previous years," notes Cathy Train, president of United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area. "We feel that this will help recognize the impact that a variety of staff members can have on a nonprofit's mission and we want to provide an opportunity for all employees of a nonprofit to be recognized for their contributions to their organization's mission."

Independent panels of local citizens chaired by Governor Gerald Baliles and Renee Grisham will accept and review nominations for the Board Governance and Staff Leadership awards.

Virginia National Bank is the underwriter of the Excellence in Nonprofit Board Governance Award, and Hantzmon Wiebel for the Excellence in Nonprofit Staff Leadership Award; State Farm Insurance is underwriting the Awards event, being held on June 1 at the Boars Head Inn.

As additional recognition of outstanding leadership, the organization of each award recipient will receive a \$2,000 cash award.

"There is no doubt that a nomination, reviewed by our distinguished panels, is an outstanding opportunity to create greater awareness and appreciation of the work of a well-run nonprofit organization," Train states. "For our finalists, there is significant benefit in being recognized for your outstanding work and to being honored among your peers."

The nomination form, instructions, award criteria and additional information are available at www.UnitedWayTJA.org or by email to ctrain@UnitedWayTJA.org and are due no later than Tuesday, April 12, 2011.

Organizations that intend to apply are requested to contact the United Way by notifying ctrain@UnitedWayTJA.org or 434.972.1701 by March 29, 2011. **Please share the nomination applications with your organization and board and other nonprofits.**

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Past recipients of United Way Awards of Excellence

Excellence in Nonprofit Leadership

2010 – Peter Thompson, Executive Director, Senior Center

2010 – Rydell Payne, Executive Director, Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries - Inspirational Award

2009 – Chuck McElroy, President, WorkSource Enterprises

2008 – Patricia Smith, Executive Director, OAR/Jefferson Area Community Corrections

2008 – Theresa Tapscott, Executive Director, Albemarle Housing Improvement Program

2007 – Gordon Walker, CEO, Jefferson Area Board for Aging

Excellence in Nonprofit Board Governance

2010 – Children, Youth & Family Services Board of Directors

2009 – Piedmont CASA Board of Directors

2008 – OAR/Jefferson Area Community Corrections Board of Directors

2007 – Charlottesville Free Clinic Board of Directors

2007 – Building Goodness Foundation Board of Directors - Inspirational Award