

United Way stars to shine during campaign's finale



BUSINESS Columnist: Robert Miller

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The United Way of Metropolitan Dallas will announce how much it raised during the 2006-07 fund drive during the Heroes of Hope campaign finale Tuesday at the Belo Mansion.

The goal was \$53 million.

P. Scott Ozanus, the Dallas-area managing partner of KPMG who chaired the campaign, says the program will also recognize the year's superstar fundraisers.

Debbie Taylor, director of community relations at Citigroup, will be presented as chairwoman of the 2007-08 campaign.

The Hollywood-themed event, A Night of the Stars, is presented by Trammell Crow Co. Dallas Independent School District Superintendent Dr. Michael Hinojosa will give the keynote address, and Mr. Ozanus and United Way board chairman Joel Allison, president and chief executive of Baylor Health Care System, will also speak.

Several honors will be handed out:

- J. Scott Wilson, a managing partner for KPMG who is on the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas board, will receive the J. Erik Jonsson Award for Volunteerism.

The award, the top honor the local United Way gives to volunteers, was named in honor of Texas Instruments Inc. co-founder Erik Jonsson, a pioneer in the modern United Way movement in Dallas.

While serving in leadership roles for the United Way, Mr. Wilson helped the group increase its accountability and transparency.

- Robert P. "Brit" Carpenter, president and chief executive of the Visiting Nurse Association of Texas, will receive the Agency Executive Director of the Year Award that recognizes outstanding agency leadership.

Mr. Carpenter is a favorite on the United Way campaign speaker circuit.

- TXU Corp. will receive the Spirit of Caring Award, which is presented to the corporate partner that truly "lives" the spirit of United Way. TXU's C. John Wilder, chairman and chief executive, will accept the award.

Since 2004, Mr. Wilder has spearheaded a huge increase in Alexis de Tocqueville Society membership (individuals who give \$10,000 or more a year to the United Way). And this year, TXU had the largest increase of the local workplace campaigns, raising \$1.66 million.

The United Way will also give special recognition to the John and Susan Wilder Foundation, which enabled nearly 140 children and teens displaced by Hurricane Katrina to attend Texas-Louisiana Camp for Youth last year.

"Organizations like TXU and people like Brit and Scott make it possible for United Way to go about our business of changing and improving lives," said Gary Godsey, president and chief executive of the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas.

Also honored:

- Highest employee giving per capita – Kimberly-Clark Corp., Exxon Mobil Corp., Deloitte & Touche USA LLP and J.C. Penney Co.
- Highest corporate giving per capita – Kimberly-Clark, Exxon Mobil, Microsoft and Frito-Lay Inc.
- Rising star of the year (awarded to the company with the largest campaign increase) – TXU.
- New campaign of the year – Nationstar Mortgage.
- Outstanding use of United Way best practices – Fluor Corp., Celanese Corp., HKS Inc, KPMG and Baylor Health Care System.
- Major gift awards – Baker Botts LLP, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Microsoft Corp. and TI.
- Agency speaker of the year – Robert Smith, Visiting Nurse Association.
- Agency campaign partner of the year – Reading and Radio Resource.
- Million-dollar campaigns – AT&T/CWA 6215, Bank of America, Citigroup, Combined Federal Campaign of North Central Texas, Deloitte & Touche USA LLP, Exxon Mobil, Frito-Lay, IBM Corp., J.C. Penney, Microsoft, Texas Health Resources, TI, TXU, U.S. Postal Service Dallas District and United Parcel Service-Southwest Region and North Texas District.

Brian Curtis of KXAS-TV (Channel 5) will be the master of ceremonies.