

Press Release



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Dodge & Cox and UPS win United Way's Spirit of the Bay Award

Exceptional employee giving and strong commitment to community earn United Way's highest tribute

SAN FRANCISCO, May 25, 2011 – Yesterday evening, United Way of the Bay Area honored Dodge & Cox and UPS with its highest tribute, the 2011 Spirit of the Bay Award. Each year, United Way's prestigious Spirit of the Bay award recognizes two Bay Area employers – one large and one small - that exceeded all others in community involvement through their partnership with United Way.

Dodge & Cox has had a steadily growing fundraising campaign every year, with increased volunteering by their employees and management's strong support of United Way's mission. Their 2010 campaign focused on United Way's goal to reduce poverty by half by 2020, both informing and inspiring employees to support United Way's community programs. Actively involved with United Way for over 60 years, Dodge & Cox is a valued partner, raising more than \$790,000 for vital human and health services in 2010.

Last year, UPS surpassed the one-billion dollar mark in total donations through their nationwide United Way workplace campaigns, which began in 1982. Here in the Bay Area, UPS is a strong partner of United Way, engaging in a wide variety of ways - through volunteerism, employee giving, event sponsorship, and corporate gifts. Their commitment to Week of Caring (the Bay Area's largest corporate volunteer event, lead by United Way) and sponsorship of Hometown Huddle (a United Way-NFL partnership that encourages volunteerism and encourages youth to be more active) are just two examples of UPS' leadership in the community. Their 2010 campaign raised more than \$750,000 for community services in the Bay Area.

Bay Area employers submitted applications for the 2011 Spirit of the Bay award, which were reviewed by an independent evaluation committee composed of representatives from Bay Area corporations. To recognize the many ways companies can partner with United Way, additional award categories were introduced this year.

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Chevron won the award for Collaboration, making an unprecedented commitment to United Way's SparkPoint program with a \$1-million gift in Contra Costa County. Chevron is also a strong supporter of 211, Week of Caring and the Loaned Executive program.

Wells Fargo earned the Community Volunteerism award. Their company rallied the highest number of volunteers during Week of Caring – 3,800 volunteers, supporting Bay Area agencies through community projects. Their senior leadership displays a strong volunteer ethic as well, with representation on United Way's Board of Directors, Tocqueville Committee, Koko Cabinet, and Campaign Cabinet.

For each of the seven counties United Way serves, an award was given to organizations displaying exemplary leadership within their geographic area. Winners included the Oakland Housing Authority, Bay Area News Group, KGO-TV, SamTrans, GPSG (A Unit of Alza), and Bank of America.

Franklin Templeton won the New Partnership award for their focus on improving financial stability in the community. Deloitte's dedication to improving education earned them a New Partnership award as well. The New Campaign award went to Sidley Austin, raising over \$132,000 in the Koko Challenge, an annual campaign for Bay Area law firms to celebrate community giving.

The award for exemplary individual leadership went to Len Almalech of Enterprise Holdings. In tribute to long-time United Way supporter E. Morris Cox, the E. Morris Cox Lifetime Achievement award went to recipients Lucretia Weiner of Chevron, Cindy Strong of SamTrans, and Ricky Howard of Anheuser-Busch.

Other award winners included ACCO Engineered Systems, AT&T, Bloomingdales, BRE, Bryan Cave, Caltrans, Comcast, Enterprise Holdings, FedEx, Frito-Lay, Gordon & Rees LLP, Macy's, Matson Navigation Company, Natixis, Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, PwC, Reed Smith, Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP, Target, The Dow Chemical Company, US Bank, and Valero.

About United Way of the Bay Area

United Way of the Bay Area is a nonprofit organization that creates pathways out of poverty. Our goal is to cut Bay Area poverty in half by 2020. We focus on helping working families and individuals, ensuring they can meet all of their basic needs, while creating opportunities for them to achieve lasting financial stability. We also invest in programs that empower the next generation for success. United Way convenes partners across sectors, advocates for policy change, runs community programs and educates residents about the issues most vital to a resilient community. Founded in 1922, United Way of the Bay Area serves Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Solano Counties. For more information, visit www.uwba.org.