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Business and Professional Breakfast to kick off Town of Palm Beach United Way fundraising campaign in Palm Beach

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Contact: Aleese Kopf at aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org or 561-655-1919

Palm Beach, Fla. — The Town of Palm Beach United Way will host the 32nd Annual Business and Professional Breakfast on Wednesday, November 1 at The Breakers. The community event marks the unofficial start of the United Way's 2023-2024 fundraising campaign, which runs from July 1 through June 30.

The breakfast is the signature event of the United Way's Business and Professional Committee, a 27-member committee (roster attached) that is responsible for securing corporate gifts and employee donations from businesses and professionals in Palm Beach.

Jay Clifford, Vice President at First Horizon, and Stacie Hallinan, Director of Catering Sales at The Colony Hotel Palm Beach, are co-chairmen of this year's committee. The campaign goal is set at \$405,000. The overall campaign goal is \$6,505,000.

"The Business and Professional Campaign is an important piece of the United Way's overall fundraising goals," said Hallinan. "It truly takes all sectors of our community working together to make a difference."

Added Clifford: "Whether it is a few dollars from the paycheck of a hardworking employee or a major gift from a corporation, every donation counts. We look forward to a successful year and raising the funds necessary to serve our community."

Guest speakers will discuss one of the Town of Palm Beach United Way's impact focus areas: domestic violence. Featured speakers include **Alexcia Cox**, Deputy Chief Assistant for the Palm Beach County Office of State Attorney Dave Aronberg, **Matthew Ladika**, Chief Executive Officer of HomeSafe, and **Idie Moreno**, LMHC, SafetyNet Supervisor/Therapist at HomeSafe.

HomeSafe has been a Town of Palm Beach United Way partner agency since 1981. Their mission is to create safer, more productive lives for infants, children, young adults and families affected by domestic violence and child abuse.

"Every child should be able to grow up in a home where they feel safe, nurtured and valued," Ladika said. "Grants from partners like the Town of Palm Beach United Way make it possible for us to protect our most vulnerable residents."

The Town of Palm Beach United Way funds programs that focus on education, health and financial stability, the cornerstones of thriving communities. Currently, donations are being invested in 71 health and human service programs at 39 nonprofit agencies throughout Palm Beach County. In addition to domestic violence, these programs address early childhood development, academic success, postsecondary education, food, housing, medical and dental assistance, substance abuse treatment and prevention, job training and placement, and support for seniors, caregivers and individuals with disabilities.

"Donations to Town of Palm Beach United Way support programs that improve the lives of our neighbors in need," said Campaign Chairman Richard Rothschild. "It is the collective giving power of United Way donors that make it possible to drive lasting change in Palm Beach County."

For more information about the breakfast, please call 561-655-1919.

ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.

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