



**NEWS RELEASE
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Northwest Airlines Unites for Communities

-- United Way National Corporate Leader NWA and its employees fly past goal, raising \$1.6 million for communities --

Alexandria, VA (October 10, 2007) – Northwest Airlines and its employees pledged \$1.6 million to communities during the 2007 United Way campaign, soaring past their goal of \$1.4 million raised last year.

“Through United Way campaigns and many other acts of generosity, Northwest Airlines’ leadership and its many thoughtful employees have demonstrated continued commitment to improving lives and creating lasting change in communities,” said Brian Gallagher, president and CEO of United Way of America.

This major accomplishment for communities was made possible by the commitment of NWA employees throughout the airline, particularly the 100 dedicated United Way team leaders who created a fun series of special events focused on year-round awareness and fundraising. Highlights included a classic car show, an “NWA Idol” contest won by a senior developer in airport operations who sang “This is the Moment”, executive dunk tank, “Your Change Can Make a Change” penny collection, wiffle ball games, tug-of-war competitions, bake sales, collaborations with Major League Baseball’s Minnesota Twins and more.

The results of these creative activities speak for themselves, as 100% of NWA officers gave at the leadership level, overall participation was up by 5% and the team surpassed their pledge goal by 12%. These contributions demonstrate NWA’s commitment to make communities a better place for all of us.

“With the economic uncertainty that has characterized the airline industry in recent years, we could have chosen less aggressive goals,” said Doug Steenland, president and chief executive officer of Northwest Airlines. “I am proud to say that we did not.”

Northwest Airlines generous gifts will help many communities, especially Minneapolis/St. Paul, Memphis and Detroit, the airline’s hubs.

For example, NWA is helping Greater Twin Cities United Way end hunger through the Hunger Initiative which will strengthen the efficiency and capacity of the emergency food system so no one goes to bed hungry. United Way’s goal is to reduce hunger by 20 percent by 2009. NWA is also helping Greater Twin Cities United Way make sure children are ready to succeed

in school with educational programs that provide creative techniques to teach children to read.

In Memphis, NWA has helped make it possible for United Way to continue its work improving people's lives by helping children and youth succeed, strengthening families and promoting self-sufficiency, increasing the quality of life for seniors and adults with disabilities, building safer neighborhoods and supporting a variety of other health and human service programs.

"Just as Northwest Airlines brings people together to Memphis from all over the world, United Way brings people from all over the Mid-South together to address the root causes of our health and human care challenges," said Dave Skorupa, vice president of communications for United Way of the Mid-South. "We're proud of our partnership with Northwest Airlines, and are pleased that their support will continue to make a difference in people's lives."

By supporting the United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Northwest Airlines is helping improve Detroit's financial stability through the Earned Income Tax Credit, by helping sponsor financial literacy seminars, helping increase and sustain home ownership and helping prevent foreclosures through individual development accounts, counseling and more. NWA is also helping children and youth achieve greater success through United Way's school attendance programs, Born Learning educational materials for parents and caregivers, the Reach Out and Read literacy program and tutoring. Additionally, thanks to generous supporters like NWA, United Way for Southeastern Michigan is administering nearly \$3 million for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

About United Way of America

United Way of America is the national organization dedicated to leading the United Way movement in making a measurable impact in every community across America by focusing on the root causes of the most serious problems. The United Way movement includes approximately 1,350 community-based United Way organizations. Each is independent, separately incorporated and governed by local volunteers. For more information about United Way of America, please visit: www.unitedway.org.

About Northwest Airlines

Northwest Airlines is one of the world's largest airlines with hubs at Detroit, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Memphis, Tokyo and Amsterdam, and approximately 1,400 daily departures. Northwest is a member of SkyTeam, an airline alliance that offers customers one of the world's most extensive global networks. Northwest and its travel partners serve more than 1,000 cities in excess of 160 countries on six continents.

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