



United Way of  
the Valley and  
Greater Utica Area

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***United Way Presents 25 New Coats to Remington Elementary School in Ilion***

**Utica, NY (November 12, 2009)** — Phil Hayne, Executive Director of the United Way of the Valley & Greater Utica Area delivered 25 new, plush children's winter coats to Remington Elementary School in Ilion today. The coats are gifts made possible from generous donors who made special pledges during the United Way "Coats for Kids" Telethon which aired on WKTV in October.

"More than 100 new coats were donated by Herb Philipson's to benefit area children and to encourage contributions to our 2009 campaign", said Hayne. "Callers who pledged \$100 or more were able to have a coat donated to a child in the donor's name. We are delighted to be able to make a difference for area children, and grateful to Herb Philipson's and our donors for making this possible."

Jeremy Rich, principal of Remington Elementary School who received the coats on behalf of students at the school said, "We are elated that children from our school were thought of today. As the weather gets colder, most of us simply go to our closets and get a heavier jacket or coat. Some children in our community don't have that option, but now with this gift they will."

According to Hayne there are 30 remaining coats that can be gifted to a child with a United Way pledge of \$100 or more. The donation will have a dual positive impact; a child will be helped with a new coat and many other lives in the community will be enhanced with the gift to the United Way campaign.

To make a pledge and gift a coat to a child, you are invited to go online to [unitedwaygu.org](http://unitedwaygu.org) or call 733.4691. Coats will be delivered to area children with a personalized gift card reflecting the donor's name.

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### **About United Way**

United Way of the Valley & the Greater Utica Area is a local, independent nonprofit organization funding area programs and initiatives that address the most crucial, local community issues. United Way's strength is its ability to improve lives by mobilizing its partners to create positive, sustained change in community conditions with measurable results. For more information, visit [www.unitedwaygu.org](http://www.unitedwaygu.org) or call 315.733.4691.

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