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United Way of  
the Valley and  
Greater Utica Area

## **UNITED WAY COLLABORATES TO LAUNCH COMMUNITY INDICATORS WEBSITE**

**APRIL 27, 2010 (Utica, NY)** – United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica Area in partnership with Alliance for a Vital Community (LAVC) introduced a new website and the results of its community indicators study today at a gathering of over 60 Oneida and Herkimer county organizations.

The website, [www.hocindicators.org](http://www.hocindicators.org), provides a statistical snapshot of issues in the two-county region and creates county-level data benchmarks that the community can use to establish shared goals toward increasing the region's economic viability and sustainability. Indicators measured included the economy; education; health; public safety; housing; arts and culture; transportation; and technology.

LAVC is a partnership among United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica Area, The Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc.; and Mohawk Valley EDGE. Formed in 2009, its purpose was to undertake a community indicators study to obtain an overview of the area's most pressing needs and opportunities for positive change. Data was collected, processed, and analyzed after a six-month study by the Center for Governmental Research (CGR). CGR, of Rochester, N.Y., also developed the website.

CGR demonstrated to participants how they can use the website and data to further the missions of their organizations and practical applications for the data at this morning's workshop.

Phil Hayne, United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica Area executive director, said: "We combined talent, time and resources to complete a study on the most critical areas for our community, and today we are unveiling the results of that study and our new community website that houses the data."

Peggy O'Shea, Community Foundation president and CEO, added: "The collaboration among the three groups was extraordinary. We worked together to meet a common need for accessible community information that would help move the Mohawk Valley forward."

Steven J. DiMeo, Mohawk Valley EDGE president, also commented: "EDGE is glad to be a partner with the Community Foundation and the United Way. This alliance provides an opportunity to share resources with other regional non-profit organizations who are working, like EDGE, to improve the Mohawk Valley."

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**About United Way**

United Way of the Valley & the Greater Utica Area is a local, independent non-profit organization funding area programs and services 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 and to achieve measurable results. For more information, visit us on FaceBook, [www.unitedwaygu.org](http://www.unitedwaygu.org) or call 315.733.4691.