



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Rae Lynn Cox, M.S., APR  
Vice President, Communications and Marketing  
Work: 717.724.4058  
Cell: 717.433.0581  
E-mail: [rcox@uwcr.org](mailto:rcox@uwcr.org)

### UNITED WAY OF THE CAPITAL REGION ANNOUNCES TRANSITION TO TACKLE ROOT CAUSES OF ISSUES FACING THE COMMUNITY

HARRISBURG (April 5, 2016) – United Way of the Capital Region is transitioning its work to move the needle on critical issues facing the Capital Region in the areas of health, education, income and basic needs by focusing on the root causes of these problems. This organizational shift to a collective impact model of work comes after two years of studying the needs of the Capital Region and listening to residents in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties about the issues they care about most.

“We know that no single organization can solve the problems facing the Capital Region,” says Timothy B. Fatzinger, United Way of the Capital Region president and CEO. “By changing our way of work to a collective impact model, we will help bring nonprofits, businesses, schools, places of worship, government, foundations and individuals together to solve problems.”

“This is more than collaboration. It’s about leveraging shared visions, goals and outcomes to create long-term success,” added Fatzinger. “Our new way of work is putting the most pressing needs of the community first, before the work of one organization.”

Over the last several months, United Way has helped facilitate expert task groups from the community to research “best practices” and develop potential solutions and strategies to drive the organization’s future work. United Way also has convened more than 20 community meetings to hear from residents about how they would approach local issues and provide feedback on the task group’s work to date.

The culmination of this effort will guide new work for United Way as it rallies our community around access to healthcare, school readiness and achievement, and moving families out of poverty, while continuing to support basic needs services to help individuals and families in urgent situations. Over the coming months, the expert task groups will announce more details of its future work as it begins to take shape.

**-more-**

“For decades our United Way has been improving the lives of individuals, but it’s now time to make a broader impact by changing our community,” said David M. Kleppinger, chairman of McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC and United Way of the Capital Region board chairman. “The data show the challenges facing our region are increasing. We are strategically changing our approach to solving community problems to help reverse this trend.”

United Way of the Capital Region’s transition will take place over the next four years and will include enhancements and changes in funding, partnerships, revenue streams and reporting of progress to the community.

“The Foundation for Enhancing Communities is honored to support and collaboratively assist the work of United Way of the Capital Region in its quest to transition to a collective impact model of work,” said Janice R. Black, The Foundation for Enhancing Communities president and CEO. “Taking on the most critical issues facing the Capital Region is not an easy task, but it is necessary. We admire United Way’s leadership in our community.”

“For nearly 100 years United Way has transformed its work to meet the needs of the community,” added Kleppinger. “This transition is necessary to take on critical issues, and create a brighter future for individuals and families in the Capital Region.”

For more information on United Way of the Capital Region, visit [uwcr.org](http://uwcr.org) or call 717.732.0700.

###