

UNITED WAY OF THE MIDLANDS CONTACT:

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## **United Way of the Midlands Presents First Annual “UWM Campaign Recognition Awards” at its Annual Meeting and Luncheon**

During its Annual Meeting and Luncheon today, United Way of the Midlands (UWM) was proud to present its first annual “UWM Campaign Recognition Awards:” “Volunteer Organization of the Year,” “New Business Partner of the Year” and “Corporate Partner of the Year.” UWM created the “UWM Campaign Recognition Awards” to honor the approximately 700 organizations that invested in our community through the UWM 2017 campaign.

During the event, UWM also reported back to the community, shared goals for future impact and celebrated its 2018 “Citizens of the Year” – Paul and Annette Smith. Gerry and Bruce Lauritzen, the 2017 “Citizens of the Year,” presented the award to the Smiths.

More than 500 people were in attendance at the meeting, which was emceed by Ariel Roblin, president & general manager of KETV NewsWatch7.

The winners of the “UWM Campaign Recognition Awards” were as follows:

### **Volunteer Organization of the Year: Sojern**

Sojern has generously supported UWM through volunteerism for the past two years. During the 2017 campaign year, 970 Sojern employees participated in UWM volunteer events.

Four hundred and fifty-six of these employees participated in Sojern’s customized volunteer project, during which they prepared and packaged reading kits for UWM’s Day of Action. Sojern served as the sponsor for Day of Action, donating \$10,000 to cover the cost of materials for the event. Sojern employees also donated 452 books to include in the reading kits. Additionally, 30 volunteers delivered the kits and read to local kids on Day of Action and 32 participated in Day of Caring. Both are UWM signature volunteer events.

Sojern has specialized in traveler path-to-purchase data for over a decade, delivering more than \$13B in direct bookings for clients to date by activating multi-channel branding and performance solutions.

### **New Business Partner of the Year: Nebraska Total Care**

Nebraska Total Care held an engaging first-year campaign, with a remarkable 95 percent employee base participation. Together, they raised an impressive sum for UWM and our community.

Nebraska Total Care is a Managed Care Organization and subsidiary of Centene Corporation (Centene). The organization delivers quality healthcare in the state of Nebraska through local, regional and community-based resources.

### **Corporate Partner of the Year – Under 100 Employees: Columbia Insurance Group**

Columbia Insurance Group has been a dedicated UWM partner for 20 years. During the 2017 campaign year, they exceeded the amount raised through their 2016 campaign by nearly 68 percent. Ninety-two percent of their employee base participated.

Columbia Insurance Group is a mutual insurance carrier that strives to build enduring relationships with their customers by providing exceptional service and value.

### **Corporate Partner of the Year – 100-199 Employees: ACCESSbank and The Harry A. Koch Co. (tie)**

ACCESSbank has been a proud partner of UWM since 2009. During the 2017 campaign year, they exceeded the amount raised through their 2016 campaign by nearly 55 percent. Ninety-one percent of their employee base participated.

ACCESSbank is a locally owned Omaha bank that specializes in consumer & commercial banking.

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The Harry A. Koch Co. has partnered with UWM for more than 10 years. During the 2017 campaign year, they exceeded the amount raised through their 2016 campaign by 39 percent. Eighty-one percent of their employee base participated.

The Harry A. Koch Co. is an independent insurance broker providing a full range of risk management and insurance products and services to clients locally, regionally and globally.

**Corporate Partner of the Year – 200-800 Employees: Security National Bank**

Security National Bank has generously donated to the community through UWM since 2008. During the 2017 campaign year, they exceeded the amount raised through their 2016 campaign by more than 10 percent. Ninety-four percent of their employee base participated.

Security National Bank has called the Greater Omaha area home for over half a century. They take a comprehensive approach to their customers' banking needs, backed by personal service from established professionals.

**Corporate Partner of the Year – 801+ Employees: Lozier**

Lozier has generously supported UWM since 2009. During the 2017 campaign year, they exceeded the amount raised through their 2016 campaign by almost five percent. Forty-three percent of their employee base participated.

Headquartered in Omaha with facilities across the U.S., Lozier Corporation is the leading manufacturer of store fixtures. Retailers around the world have relied on their quality products and service for over 60 years.

**About the United Way of the Midlands**

Thanks to donors, volunteers and community partners, United Way of the Midlands is not only focused on addressing our community's human needs today; it is focused on what can be, and what should be. It is building on today's strong partnerships to create even more comprehensive human service efforts tomorrow, so our community can solve some of the root causes of poverty. United Way is community-based, community-focused. Thanks to those who share their strength, United Way is COMMUNITY STRONG. We invite you to visit [www.UnitedWayMidlands.org](http://www.UnitedWayMidlands.org) for more information.

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