

for immediate release

Contact: Erica Hallock
509-991-2390

October 24, 2011

UNITED WAYS OFFER NONPROFIT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SPOKANE – Erica Hallock, President/CEO of the United Ways of Washington (UWWA), announced that thanks to a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 30 nonprofit executives from across the state will participate in a Peer Group Coaching Program.* The purpose of the program is to help leaders solve relevant, real-time problems, increase performance, strengthen leadership, build capacity, and transform their learning into measurable results for their organizations and communities. Participants will meet twice a month for six months, via Skype.

“The combination of severe budget cuts and increasing need has made it one of the most difficult times to lead a nonprofit organization,” said Hallock. “The safety net in Washington State is altering drastically. Human service leaders statewide are under pressure to make difficult choices about the most basic of human needs.” This Peer Group Coaching project was designed to provide our state’s nonprofit leaders with innovative resources and tools to be more knowledgeable, confident and impactful in their communities.

The Peer Group Coaching Program is based on the principles of Action Learning, where group members work together to find solutions to problems through active listening and reflective inquiry. This proven methodology is used by corporations such as Microsoft and Boeing to not only solve problems and develop leaders, but also to build teams, manage change, and transform their organizations.

*Nonprofit executives in the following counties will participate in the project: Chelan-Douglas, Clallam, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, King, Lewis, Mason, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Walla Walla, Whatcom and Yakima.

###

The United Ways of Washington is the statewide association for the 26 local and independent United Ways in Washington state. More information about the United Ways of Washington can be found at www.unitedway-wa.org.