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United Way of America's Usha Chaudhary Wins Honor From Nonprofit CFO of the Year Awards

*– Chaudhary Recognized for Establishing Innovative Financial Vision for
America's Largest Charity –*

WASHINGTON – (November 1, 2007) The United Way of America (UWA) today announced the achievement of its Chief Financial Officer, Usha Chaudhary, as the 2007 Nonprofit CFO Innovator of the Year for her commitment to promoting improved accountability and financial reporting practices.

In her role as Executive Vice President and CFO, Ms. Chaudhary directs all financial and operational activities of UWA, its subsidiaries and United Way organizations that include more than 1,300 members. Ms. Chaudhary was recognized for her work in enacting safeguards to ensure integrity and transparency while developing an innovative financial vision for the organization. Ms. Chaudhary established a framework to review and assess the financial and operational health of UWA's subsidiaries, which led to key strategic decisions with respect to the United Way Store and United eWay - a UWA division designed for companies that want an online pledge card option or other electronic options for pledge card processing - and the outsourcing and merging with other entities, respectively.

“On behalf of Usha Chaudhary's United Way colleagues, I add my congratulations on receiving this much deserved recognition. United Way of America has greatly benefited from Usha's numerous world-class professional contributions,” said United Way of America President and CEO, Brian Gallagher. “We are all proud of her and know that this award reflects a lifetime commitment to business management discipline and operational excellence.”

Since joining the UWA, Ms. Chaudhary has made various operational improvements to the UWA infrastructure. Having launched a new business management discipline within the organization, Ms. Chaudhary facilitated strategic planning, organization re-alignment, performance measurement, and operational excellence for the organization. She also secured a first-of-its-kind \$3 million donation of airtime from cable provider RCN.

Chief Judge for the 2007 Nonprofit CFO of the Year Awards, Andrew Lang, commented,



“Usha Chaudhary was the clear choice of the judges for Innovator of the Year. Her efforts to ensure the integrity and transparency of financial activity both at United Way of America and at its 1300 membership organizations is a truly notable achievement. Her leadership, ideas and implementation have been critical in helping to restore critical public confidence at a time of heightened scrutiny for the Nation's nonprofits.”

Ms. Chaudhary's involvement with her community, at the grassroots level, is unwavering. She is a Board member of Carpenter's Shelter, a homeless shelter in Alexandria, Virginia and was previously a Board member of Women's Mortgage Industry Network, a group focused on developing and promoting leadership and development opportunities for women in the mortgage industry.

The 2007 finalists were drawn from open nominations submitted to Tate & Tryon and West, Lane & Schlager. Honors for CFO Lifetime Achievement and CFO Rising Star were also presented at the second annual luncheon awards ceremony hosted by Tate & Tryon West, Lane & Schlager. The ceremony also gave recognition to Greater Washington Metropolitan-area financial executives for their tremendous contributions in leadership and operational excellence while emphasizing the valuable role that CFOs play in the success of the organizations they serve. The independent panel of judges was comprised of Washington nonprofit industry experts and academic leaders evaluated nominations.

About United Way of America

United Way of America is the national organization dedicated to leading the United Way movement in making a measurable impact in every community across America by focusing on the root causes of the most serious problems. The United Way movement includes nearly 1,300 community-based United Way organizations whose focus is promoting early childhood education and youth development, financial stability and access to health. Each is independent, separately incorporated, and governed by local volunteers. For more information about United Way of America, please visit: www.unitedway.org.

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