REACH OUT A HAND TO ONE AND INFLUENCE THE CONDITION OF ALL

LIVE UNITED™

United Way

United Way of the Greater Clarksville Region

Media Release

Date: August 20, 2008
For Immediate Release

Contact: Tara Szopinski
(931) 647-4291

LIVE UNITED IN CLARKSVILLE BY PARTICIPATING IN THE 2008 DAYS OF CARING

Clarksville, TN, August 20, 2008 - In 1993, the United Way of Clarksville-Montgomery County launched the first Day of Caring for our community. The goal was to show members in the community how to live united through their contributions, how the partner agencies of United Way affect people's lives, and to demonstrate how their support through volunteering and contributing creates the opportunities for a good life for all by advancing the common good. Those Days of Caring volunteers accomplished many things including; cleaning and painting, working with disadvantaged children, delivering meals, and building wheel-chair ramps, just to name a few. That first Day of Caring was a resounding success because our local business leaders allowed their employees to take a half day, or even a full day, off with pay so their employees could volunteer their time working at any one of United Way's partner agencies.

Last year, over 380 volunteers from all walks of life in our community participated in Days of Caring. Through their efforts, important work was accomplished, but, more importantly they became actively engaged in our community and learned that when they reach out a hand to one, they influence the condition of all by giving, advocating, and volunteering.

Some examples of what volunteers accomplished during Days of Caring last year:

- Meals for home-bound seniors were prepared, packaged, and delivered
- Food was stocked and arranged and meals prepared and served at The Salvation Army
- Volunteers worked with the clients at the Adult Day Care program
- Seniors at the Senior Citizens Center were helped with dance and creative writing classes, and with recreational activities like bingo and shuffleboard
- Volunteers painted the gym at the Clarksville Area YMCA and the offices at the American Red Cross
- The grounds of the Safehouse Domestic Violence shelter, United Way office, and Big Brothers Big Sisters were landscaped
- Volunteers read to the children at the local Head Start sites

This year, the United Way of the Greater Clarksville Region is again reaching out to encourage the public to get involved and **LIVE UNITED** in our community by participating in the five-day event, Days of Caring.

-MORE-

Live United in Clarksville by participating in the 2008 Days of Caring

This year's Days of Caring event is scheduled for September 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th. To thank and recognize volunteers, United Way will provide them with a commemorative t-shirt to wear during their volunteer time and will wrap up the Days of Caring with the annual United Way Volunteer Recognition and Campaign Kick-off celebration on Friday, September 19th at McGregor Park on Riverside Drive.

Volunteer Sign-up sheets and release forms for Days of Caring are available online at www.liveunitedclarksville.org, or at the United Way office, 1300 Madison Street, through September 5th. Any materials and/or supplies necessary to complete the assigned tasks will be provided by the participating agencies. For more information about Days of Caring, see the website or call the United Way office at (931) 647-4291.

###