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UNITED WAY OF SALT LAKE

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United Way of Salt Lake Announces 2014 *Celebration of Service* Award Honorees

SALT LAKE CITY — Today, United Way of Salt Lake (UWSL) announced *Celebration of Service* award honorees for 2014. United Way will honor **Voices for Utah Children** as its Promise Partner, **Craig Wagstaff** as Outstanding Volunteer, **Workers Compensation Fund** as Corporate Partner, **Utah State Representative Greg Hughes** will be honored with the President's Award for Excellence, and **Michael Weinholtz** has been named Compassionate Leader of the Year.

“These compassionate individuals and organizations are our community’s visionaries and true leaders,” said Deborah Bayle, President and CEO of United Way of Salt Lake. “Their expertise and unwavering commitment to United Way’s mission have been critical in helping us make enormous advances toward changing the odds for Utah children and families. It’s an honor and privilege to have their continued support.”

Each of the following award winners has partnered with United Way of Salt Lake for projects, events or legislation that promote United Way’s mission to ensure that all children and families, regardless of circumstances, have the same opportunity to succeed in school and in life.

Promise Partner of the Year **Voices for Utah Children**

Voices for Utah Children has been a United Way of Salt Lake partner for many years. They have been especially vital as United Way continues to work to evaluate and expand access to preschool programs – conducting research on cohorts of children in Granite School District, and assisting with efforts to pass preschool legislation for the past two years.

Volunteer of the Year **Craig Wagstaff, Executive Vice President & COO, Questar Gas Company**

United Way of Salt Lake is extremely grateful to have Craig Wagstaff as one of our most engaged and passionate volunteers. Not only has Wagstaff led United Way of Salt Lake’s 2-1-1 steering council for the past two years, year in and year out, he continually spearheads Questar Gas Company’s successful workplace campaigns, rallying hundreds of employees who help contribute to United Way’s mission in numerous ways. He has generously shared his expertise, vision, and leadership with United Way of Salt Lake as an active member of our Board of Directors. Questar is also a sponsor of United Way’s *Live United* advertising, and has been extremely supportive in all marketing efforts including sponsoring many local events.

Corporate Partner of the Year Workers Compensation Fund

Workers Compensation Fund continually goes above and beyond in their support of United Way of Salt Lake. The organization has embraced a year-round engagement strategy that includes: site visits, a successful workplace campaign, volunteer events, and recently, has been encouraging employees to participate in United Way's advocacy efforts. Workers Compensation Fund made a significant investment in the *Changing the Odds Campaign* last year to help UWSL expand work in neighborhoods and schools. As a sponsor of both advertising and social media promotions, Workers Compensation Fund has also been vital in expanding United Way's reach and visibility in the community.

President's Award for Excellence Representative Greg Hughes

To truly solve complex social problems, United Way of Salt Lake works with state leaders to influence public policy decisions. There is no greater example of that collaboration than the work led by Representative Greg Hughes who sponsored and helped pass HB96 Utah School Readiness Initiative. In collaboration with UWSL and many community partners, Representative Hughes championed the country's first piece of legislation that creates a pay for success model for high quality preschool. The \$3 million secured by Representative Hughes for this initiative will ensure more of Utah's at-risk, low-income kids start school ready to learn. This innovative post-performance model ensures tax payer dollars are only spent on programs that get results.

Compassionate Leader of the Year Michael Weinholtz, The Weinholtz Family Foundation

Michael Weinholtz has been a proud supporter and champion of United Way of Salt Lake's mission for many years. Last year, The Weinholtz Family Foundation made a significant investment in United Way of Salt Lake's *Changing the Odds Campaign*. Weinholtz prides himself as a champion of community building in both his personal life as well as his professional. As CEO of CHG Healthcare, he has incorporated community involvement through United Way into his core organizational values, leading to incredible year-round employee participation in CHG's workplace campaign and numerous volunteer events throughout the year. The company also shows support through event sponsorships and employee participation in United Way's special events throughout the year.

United Way of Salt Lake will honor these outstanding organizations and individuals at the 15th annual *Celebration of Service* luncheon on May 21, 2014. For event and RSVP information please visit uw.org/celebration.

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United Way of Salt Lake is working to advance the education, income, and health of our neighborhoods and communities to ensure that every child succeeds, every step of the way, from cradle to career. We invite everyone to be a part of the change. You can give, you can advocate, and you can volunteer. That's what it means to LIVE UNITED. Join the conversation by visiting our blog at uwshub.org, or find out more at uw.org.

