

UNITED WAY OF CONNECTICUT

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

United Way of Connecticut Announces New President & CEO

Richard J. Porth has been appointed United Way of Connecticut's new President and CEO by the organization's Board of Directors, effective October 1, 2008. He will succeed Ann E. Thomas, who has served as the Interim CEO since the departure of Michael P. Meotti in early 2008 to become Connecticut's Commissioner of Higher Education.

"We are excited to be welcoming Rick as our new President and CEO. He brings to United Way of Connecticut the leadership skills and extensive experience needed to lead the organization through the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead," said Holly Wolff, Chairperson of the Board.



Porth brings to this position thirty years of relevant experience in the state and local government, foundation and nonprofit sectors in Connecticut and New Jersey. Since December 2003, he has been serving as Vice President for Grantmaking at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, one of the country's largest community foundations. In that capacity, he helps to manage approximately \$19 million in annual grantmaking; coordinates research and policy analysis work on topics such as adult literacy, homelessness, and access to higher education; provides extensive support for community outreach and development activities; and works with numerous nonprofit, community and government leaders to address many facets of community life.

His previous leadership positions include Executive Director of the Capitol Region Council of Governments, Director of Community Resources for the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, and City Business Administrator for the City of Trenton, New Jersey.

"I am looking forward to working with the board, staff, local United Ways, state agencies, and others that are part of United Way of Connecticut's extensive network of partners to build on the organization's considerable strengths and achievements and to pursue new opportunities to serve the people of Connecticut", said Porth.

Porth holds a BA in Political Science from Yale University and a Masters of Public Administration from Pennsylvania State University, where he was awarded a Public Service Fellowship. He resides in West Hartford with his family.

The United Way of Connecticut's mission is to help meet the needs of Connecticut residents by providing information, education and connection to services. UWC furthers its mission by providing 24/7 toll free call center access to health and human services information through 2-1-1; specialized services in child care, child development and disabilities, and HUSKY health insurance; and by collaborating with local United Ways and Connecticut state agencies and elected officials. For more information about United Way of Connecticut, visit www.ctunitedway.org.

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