

NEWS RELEASE

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**United Way
of Greater Stark County**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Way of Greater Stark County's "An Evening of Women" A Huge Success

(Canton, OH) May 16, 2017 – Local women recently gathered at La Pizzeria in Canton for a free informational networking event hosted by United Way of Greater Stark County's Women United. This affinity group is part of a global force of over 70,000 women committed to lifting women out of poverty.

Previously known as Women's Leadership Council, Women United is a group of like-minded women who contribute their personal passions, inspired ideas, and unique strengths to the mission of building stronger communities. Through philanthropy, mentorship and educational activities, Women United tackles the issues that matter most in local communities and globally. "As an integral part of United Way, Women United fights for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community," explains 2016-17 Chair Linda Smith. "Women have historically been leaders for social change, and this is one way to make an impact locally."

The event drew a diverse crowd of 91 women of various ages, ethnicities and socio-economic backgrounds. After opening remarks, attendees viewed the HBO documentary "Paycheck to Paycheck," part of Maria Shriver's groundbreaking multi-platform project "The Shriver Report: A Woman's Nation Pushes Back from the Brink." The film illuminates the day-to-day challenges of millions of working-poor women in America today through the story of one single mom, whose marriage ended due to her husband's substance abuse.

Following the film, speaker Jade Fishburn discussed her journey from addiction and poverty to personal and professional accomplishment, achieved with the help of a committed network of supportive women and United Way-funded programs. Participants were able to network with one another afterwards, and explore the numerous opportunities to engage in Women United initiatives.

"Every Women United group is unique to each community, but the mission and goals are consistent," explains UWGSC's Vice President of Resource Development, Angela Perisic. "We want to empower women to help them advance their earning potential and transform their lives." For more information about United Way's Women United, visit www.uwstark.org/women-united or contact Angela Perisic at 330-491-9952 or angela.perisic@uwstark.org.

About United Way of Greater Stark County

United Way of Greater Stark County fights for the Health, Education and Financial Stability of every person in every community. We win by living United. By forging unlikely partnerships. By finding new solutions to old problems. By mobilizing the best resources. And by inspiring individuals to join the fight against their community's most daunting social crisis. Our mission is to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of our communities in Greater Stark County. In order to live better, we must live United. For more information about United Way of Greater Stark County visit www.uwstark.org. Headquarters are at 401 Market Avenue North, Suite 300, Canton, Ohio 44702. (330) 491-0445.

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