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Granite United Way Volunteers Announce Community Investments ~ Delivering Impact Across the Northern Region

(Berlin, New Hampshire) – Granite United Way’s annual campaign mobilizes more than 20,000 donors and corporate supporters to raise more than \$9 million across the state of New Hampshire and Windsor County, Vermont. These investments will deliver nearly \$12 Million in total community impact this year, while leveraging another \$2 Million in support through initiatives.

The campaign benefits more than 750 nonprofit agencies and programs providing services to more than 350,000 individuals. Volunteers are mobilized from each local region in its footprint to review and vet proposals and make funding decisions based upon strict criteria that ensures investments are held to the highest standards and are producing the greatest, most cost-efficient impact.

Additionally, over 170 households in the Northern Region utilized free tax preparation services through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, bringing nearly \$150,000 in federal tax refunds to the community. The team at 2-1-1 NH answered nearly 1,500 calls from the Northern Region, connecting individuals to critical referrals to social services, including needs related to homelessness, legal supports, and utility assistance.

Local volunteers on Granite United Way’s Community Impact Committee dedicated the last few months to evaluating program proposals and determining their investment decisions for the Northern Region. **Together the volunteer Board of Directors and the Northern Region Community Impact Committee announced that the 2018 Campaign would deliver nearly \$400,000 in support during 2019 to the Northern Region**

“These investments leverage the incredible impact made by our local and statewide initiatives, including 2-1-1 NH, public health networks and volunteer income tax assistance to create the opportunity for our communities to learn, earn and be healthy,” said Patrick Tufts, President and CEO of Granite United Way.

Local volunteers lead the investment process, focusing on providing basic needs across the region, and grants were made to several new partners this year.

“The grant process was more efficient and gave us the additional time to discuss the best way for our funding to programs, as well as have applicants conference calls to discuss their work,” said Linda Lamirande member of the Community Impact Committee.

Organizations across the region partner with Granite United Way to offer critical services and programs.

“At Response Domestic & Sexual Violence Program we are proud to be a partner with Granite United Way. The support of the community is so important with helping to make a difference in lives throughout Coos County. Continued support of GUW provides Response the ability to offer on-going support services to our community members who need assistance,” said Deborah Haynes-Kenney, Response Program Director at Coos County Family Health Services.

“We have tremendous community momentum in our community,” said Laura Boucher, Area Manager for the Northern Region. “We are proud to partner with local organizations that are providing the services our neighbors need. It takes all of us to build up our community.”

Funded programs will receive notification this week.

For more information about Granite United Way, visit www.graniteuw.org.

Granite United Way

Granite United Way is an experienced and trusted organization dedicated to leveraging the resources of investors and volunteers to create lasting change by addressing the underlying causes of our community's most pressing needs. Granite United Way works with over 1,000 companies, 25,000 investors and thousands of volunteers every year to ensure access to program and services that help individuals and families learn, earn and be healthy. Granite United Way is highly rated by the nation's most recognized experts on nonprofits, GuideStar and Charity Navigator.

Granite United Way serves the Southern (Manchester/Derry/Salem), Merrimack County, North Country, Central NH, Northern and Upper Valley Regions of NH and VT as well as Windsor County, VT. For more information, visit www.graniteuw.org.

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