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**Big Four Accounting Firms Raise More than \$1 Million
to Help Local Families and Individuals Achieve Financial Stability**
Contributions to United Way Silicon Valley's Community Action Fund Will Improve Lives

SAN JOSE, Calif., January 27, 2011 – Accounting firm Ernst & Young won the coveted *Big Four Challenge Cup* for its efforts to help local families and individuals achieve financial stability by giving generously to United Way Silicon Valley's Community Action Fund. Employees at the four big accounting firms Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG, and PricewaterhouseCoopers collectively raised \$1,024,560 during United Way Silicon Valley's 2010 - 2011 annual giving campaign.

"We are proud that Ernst & Young employees rose to this challenge and that our contributions will help create a better future for people in our Silicon Valley community," said San Jose Office Managing Partner Lisa Portnoy.

"We are excited to bring home the trophy for the fourth time in seven years!" added Palo Alto Office Managing Partner Brad Herrmann.

Each year the four accounting firms challenge each other to see which company can make the biggest impact on the community by investing more in United Way Silicon Valley. The firms have raised more than \$5.9 million for United Way Silicon Valley's annual giving campaign since the challenge began in 2004. Even in this tough economy, Ernst & Young increased its giving to United Way Silicon Valley's campaign this year.

"We are very thankful for the generous support of these firms. It is also gratifying to know that these companies and their employees believe in United Way Silicon Valley's ability to identify critical community needs and find solutions," said Carole Leigh Hutton, president and CEO of United Way Silicon Valley. "One in four Santa Clara County residents can't meet their basic needs without some type of assistance. United Way is focused on helping these families get the tools they need to make a decent living and build assets for the future."

United Way Silicon Valley's Community Action Fund addresses the root causes of local problems. In addition to programs that help people reach financial stability, United Way's

Community Action Fund is invested in programs that are helping local children and youth reach their potential as well as 211 Santa Clara County, a free information and referral line that connects callers to thousands of community services 24/7 and in more than 170 languages.

The win means Ernst & Young will recapture the *Big Four Challenge Cup* from last year's winner PricewaterhouseCoopers, which had the Cup passed to it in 2010 from Ernst & Young.

United Way Silicon Valley is leading a movement to improve community conditions by helping local people become financially stable and independent. To drive positive change, United Way Silicon Valley helps people help themselves by identifying critical needs, mobilizing the caring power of the community, and aligning resources to achieve the best solutions. United Way is focused on the building blocks for a good life: income, education and health.

For more information about United Way Silicon Valley, visit www.uwsv.org.

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