



June 2, 2010

**AEP OHIO DONATES \$500,000 TO UNITED WAY AGENCIES  
TO HELP WITH HEALTH AND HOUSING NEEDS IN AREA**

COLUMBUS, OH June 2, 2010 --

Nearly 50 United Way agencies around Ohio will be able to help more families in need this spring, thanks to donations by AEP Ohio totaling \$500,000. The donations are part of the company's overall focus on issues around hunger, health, and housing through its *Partnership with Ohio (PWO)* program.

AEP Ohio's PWO program is a three-year, \$15 million commitment by the company to help agencies throughout Ohio address issues around hunger, health and housing affecting Ohio residents. Last year, AEP Ohio committed \$1,000,000 to United Way agencies and area food banks, as well as contributed \$2.3 million to assist families in need of assistance to pay their electric bills through the AEP Ohio Neighbor-to Neighbor program, a part of the PWO initiative, which began at the end of 2008.

"Many Ohio families continue to struggle during these challenging times, AEP Ohio established the *Partnership with Ohio* program to provide meaningful assistance to families in need," said Joe Hamrock, president and chief operating officer for AEP Ohio. "Continuing to partner with outstanding community resources like the United Way agencies ensures that our contribution will be effective, and will be quickly used to provide assistance for thousands of families throughout the region."

The gifts from AEP Ohio come at a time that will help the growing numbers of struggling families in the region.

According to the United Way of Van Wert County, AEP is providing \$2,699 to be used for rent, mortgage, security deposit assistance, and access to quality healthcare. The funds will be equally divided between the Community Action Commission and the Family Caring Clinic for these purposes. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the United Way office at 419-238-6689.