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Dear Community Members:

The mission of United Way Monterey County is “*to engage the community and focus resources to improve lives in Monterey County*”. Our vision for the future is “*concerned and caring people together building a healthy, secure community*”. We work toward our mission and vision by granting funds to *Certified Member Agencies*, which have an ongoing relationship with United Way and meet the strictest criteria for organizational capacity and stability. *Certified Member Agencies* are eligible to apply for funding each year, but are not necessarily guaranteed funding.

For the first time since its merged entity was formed in 2000, the Board of Directors of UWMC is expanding its certified agency pool. To address identified service gaps and to enhance United Way’s ability to affect change in four Impact Priority Areas, we are considering adding up to three new certified member agencies. To that end, UWMC is soliciting Letters of Intent from human service nonprofit organizations interested in becoming United Way *Certified Member Agencies*.

Agencies that meet the requirements outlined in the enclosed documents, which detail *Basic Criteria for New Agency Certification* and *Criteria for Certified Member Agencies*, are asked to submit a Letter of Intent.

Letters of Intent are limited to TWO pages and should address the compelling unmet need or innovative service delivery model to be implemented and how those fit in with the priority target population and/or types of services outlined. Applicants meeting the initial screening criteria will be asked to submit an Application for Certification, which will include all relevant documentation and be due in early March 2008. Those not meeting the criteria will be notified no later than end of December.

Letters of Intent are due before **4:00 pm, Thursday, Nov. 15, 2007**. More information is available at:
<http://www.unitedwaymcca.org/certification1.htm>.

We appreciate your interest in joining the United Way Monterey County team of agencies who work together to improve lives in our community.

Sincerely,

Rob Pappani, Chair
Agency Relations Committee