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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UNITED WAY OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY ANNOUNCES TRANSITION IN LEADERSHIP

NORTHAMPTON, MA — It is with a mix of sadness and gratitude that the Board of Directors announces James Ayres departure as Executive Director of United Way of Hampshire County, effective June 9, 2017. "Since 2011, Jim has played a critical role in the development and success of the organization, and while we will miss Jim and his leadership, we wish him the best of luck in his new endeavor," stated Julie Cowan, UWHC board chair. "We want to thank Jim for his six years of dedicated service, which involved many significant accomplishments for UWHC."

Ayres will assume the role of President & CEO of United Way of Pioneer Valley. UWHC looks forward to continue working collaboratively with United Way of Pioneer Valley as well as other neighboring United Way agencies across the region.

Over the next few months, the board of directors will appoint an interim director while they conduct a thorough search to find a new Executive Director. It will be the priority of the board to find the best individual to lead this stable and effective organization into the future. "Our work will carry on thanks to strong partnerships, our terrific staff, volunteers and donors who care so deeply about the work of our United Way and this community," said Cowan. "Jim Ayres and the entire board are committed to a thoughtful and seamless transition that will result in ensuring the continued success for this organization and the people of Hampshire County."

About United Way of Hampshire County

United Way of Hampshire County engages and inspires the people, employers, and organizations of Hampshire County to give, advocate, and volunteer on behalf of our community. Our vision is that all individuals and families have the tools and resources to reach their full potential through education, economic security, and wellness. Lifting together, we build strong, vibrant, and inclusive communities.

To invest, volunteer, or to obtain more information, call United Way of Hampshire County at (413) 584-3962 or visit www.uwhampshire.org.

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