

Lake Area United Way

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Lake Area United Way Salutes Employee Campaign Managers at special volunteer appreciation cookout held at Wicker Park

Lake Area United Way (LAUW) has recognized Kelly Nissan as the local community planning and fund raising organization's Employee Campaign Manager of the Year.

She was honored at a LAUW volunteer appreciation cookout hosted at Wicker Park in Highland on June 16. While 75 guests attending played bean bag toss and noshed on hamburgers, chips and soda pop, Nissan and three other key volunteers were feted with top honors for their efforts in managing and coordinating their company's employee workplace campaigns.

Nissan was recognized for her role as the employee campaign coordinator at St. Catherine Hospital in East Chicago where she formerly held the position of manager of marketing and community relations. In the 2008-09 campaign, Nissan orchestrated an employee drive where total contributions increased 21 percent over the previous year.

Today Nissan is ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor's internal communications manager. The local steel maker is the largest single corporate partner and employee group contributor to the annual LAUW campaign.

Also recognized were:

Division I ECM of the Year -

Joyce Gorczynski
Human Resource/Payroll Assistant
Dover Chemical Hammond Works

Division II ECM of the Year -

Sandy Strong
Senior Maintenance Clerk
Dominion State Line Energy

Division III ECM of the Year -

Pam Porter
Vice President, Employee Relations Manager
First Midwest Bank

The awards are given out annually to one individual within each of United Way's three campaign divisions who demonstrates outstanding leadership, commitment and dedication in running a creative and successful United Way campaign in his or her workplace. One volunteer is honored as Employee Campaign Manager of the Year.

Nissan was nominated for the award by Richard Komyatte, LAUW's 2008-09 Community Campaign Chair. He applauded her passionate community involvement, use of innovative ideas and long-time support of United Way.

"The best workplace campaigns are based on education and motivation," Komyatte explained. "Kelly did an outstanding job conducting a fun, engaging and informative employee fund drive."

"Everyone who volunteers for United Way demonstrates their commitment to this community and their neighbors," said Komyatte. "Each and every one of our volunteers is very important to us. We would not be where we are today without their loyalty and dedication of our volunteers."

"They truly further our mission of empowering people to live united and build better lives," he added. "Through this annual event, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for their hard work and support."

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