



United Way of Anchorage

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Walk 4 Warmth event aims to keep Anchorage families housed

Week long effort to bring awareness, donations to critical needs

Anchorage AK – Here’s your chance to walk, run, dance, swim, skate, ski, skijor, or mush to raise money and awareness for thousands of our neighbors struggling to cover rent and utilities and feed their families during the coronavirus recession. The 9th United Way of Anchorage Walk 4 Warmth event kicks off Friday, Feb. 5, with a virtual welcome presentation and ends with a closing celebration on Sunday, Feb. 14.

The opening welcome will include remarks by Alexandra McKay, vice president of programs at the Rasmuson Foundation and Clark Halvorson, president of United Way of Anchorage, along with several stories sharing how rent and utility assistance has kept more than 7,000 Anchorage families afloat through the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Cold, hunger and food insecurity and homelessness ruin lives – and can kill people,” Halvorson said. “By walking and working together, we’re raising critical funds to meet the needs of our neighbors in these difficult times.”

Funds will go to AK Can Do, a partnership of the Rasmuson Foundation, Alaska Community Foundation, and United Way of Anchorage. The AK Can Do fund was launched in March 2020 to help Alaskans struggling through the economic shutdown of the pandemic. Generous donors have pledged to match every dollar raised during the week of Walk 4 Warmth.

“We are coming out of our darkest months and a very tough year, where on top of worries about COVID-19, people struggled with rent and food,” McKay said. “Walk 4 Warmth is a great way for us to come together as the days get longer, to help make sure everyone has enough.”

Though walking shoulder-to-shoulder isn’t possible this year, United Way of Anchorage is encouraging the community to enjoy the outdoors in small bubbles throughout the week and share photos, videos, and messages through social media with the #LiveUnitedANC hashtag.

About United Way of Anchorage

United Way of Anchorage is a community of donors, advocates, volunteers, and partners working together to improve the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community. LIVE UNITED. www.liveunitedanc.org