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United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island celebrates ten years

Providence, R.I. (February 6, 2017) United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island is celebrating ten years of being the caring, human connection for Rhode Islanders in need 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 9, at the Rhode Island State House. The occasion will also mark the release of 2-1-1's annual data report, which helps pinpoint the areas in which Rhode Islanders need the most help.

"Our work is about Rhode Islanders helping Rhode Islanders," said Cristina Amadeo, Managing Director of 2-1-1 and The POINT. "We pride ourselves on really wanting to help and be here for others."

Over the years, United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island has grown from a small staff of 5 to a robust 25, and expanded to form a partnership with The POINT, Rhode Island's Aging and Disability Resource Center. In 2015, after receiving a gift from Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island of a 38-foot RV, 2-1-1 began to offer their services on the move.

"No other 2-1-1 in the country has an RV," said Jay Burdick, Program Outreach Coordinator. "No other 2-1-1 has the reach that we have in the community, and it's made us a model for others."

2-1-1 in Rhode Island is there to answer the call, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day for those looking to find help – even during natural disasters. Since 2-1-1 call specialists hear directly from Rhode Islanders, United Way is uniquely positioned to know what looming crises face the state. On February 9, 2-1-1's specialists will share not only what Rhode Islanders need most, but the calls that stick with them, and the families they just can't forget.

United Way 2-1-1 in Rhode Island is supported by Citizens Bank.

February 11 is officially National 2-1-1 Day in recognition of the free and confidential, service that connects residents to essential health and human services.

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About United Way of Rhode Island

United Way of Rhode Island (UWRI) has been working to improve the quality of life in Rhode Island for nearly 90 years. Together with its partners, UWRI is changing lives and strengthening our communities by investing in proven programs that work over the short-term, and are scalable over the long-term. For more information, visit www.LIVEUNITEDri.org.