

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 19, 2016

Contact: Aimee Chauvot 907.317.0229
Laura Brown 949.202.7310

Join Mayor Ethan Berkowitz and Hundreds of Community Members This Saturday Running and Walking to Keep At Risk Families Warm and Housed

Anchorage, AK—Community leaders, neighbors, co-workers, family and friends will step out in the cold together on Saturday, February 20th at **United Way's 6th annual Run & Walk for Warmth** to help at-risk families stay housed and warm. Since 2011, event proceeds have helped pull hundreds of Anchorage families back from the brink of homelessness.

"More than 16,000 families in our community struggle each month to keep a roof overhead and a meal on the table. All it takes is a single upset, a temporary job loss, an unexpected medical bill and suddenly the security of home is in jeopardy," said Sue Brogan, Vice President Income/Health, United Way of Anchorage. "This event sends a powerful message that our community is united to make sure no Anchorage family is left out in the cold."

"You can count on me to walk the walk! I'm committed to working together with United Way and others to help families stretch their limited budgets so they can stay housed, warm and fed and avoid homelessness," said Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz. "The Run & Walk for Warmth is a great way for the whole community to take action together."

There is still time to get in on the fun. Registration is \$30 in advance, \$35 on the day of the event. Whether you walk or run on your own, with friends or family, join a team, walk virtually or make a donation, you will be making a difference in the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors this winter.

Here's a quick look at the Event schedule:

- Participants meet at First United Methodist Church, 725 W. 9th Avenue
- Coffee, water and secure bag/coat drop available
- 9 AM: doors open
- Warm up with Anchorage Yoga and PiYo Steve & Tammy!
- Brief program, including speaker Mayor Ethan Berkowitz
- 10 AM: run begins
- Prizes for top finishers, fundraisers and teams!

More details on fundraising, bib pick-up and last minute registration available at <http://bit.ly/runwalkforwarmth>

Run & Walk for Warmth is part of United Way's ongoing work to ensure all Anchorage residents are warm, housed and fed, financially stable and have the opportunity to increase their income and save for the future.

2016 Run and Walk for Warmth Sponsors:

Enstar Natural Gas is the event's presenting sponsor. Other major sponsors include Teamsters Local 959, Odom Corporation and Public Employees #71, with additional support from Anchorage Central Labor Council, Anchorage Market & Festivals, CH2M Alaska, Fairweather LLC, Laborer Local 341, Muldoon Lions Club, Visit Anchorage. Media and in-kind sponsors include First United Methodist Church and YourAlaskaLink

About United Way of Anchorage

United Way of Anchorage mobilizes people and resources to make lasting, measurable changes in our community to improve lives. Our priorities are successful, prepared kids; strong, financially stable families; access to medical care for all; and a community making healthy lifestyle choices. United Way invites you to join the movement. www.liveunitedanc.org

#