FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Ashley Reynolds, United Way of Dane County (608) 416-0401 Ashley.reynolds@uwdc.org



The Power of Many. Working for All.

Fabiola Hamdan Receives Women United Philanthropy Award

Women United Breakfast Celebrates Women in Philanthropy

Madison, WI (October 2, 2020) - Fabiola ("Faby") Hamdan was honored with the Women United Philanthropy Award at United Way's virtual Women United Breakfast, which took place on Wednesday, September 30.

This prestigious award celebrates and acknowledges a woman who is committed to helping make our community a better place to live, for all. The award also honors a woman's achievements in educating, empowering and inspiring women and young girls to be philanthropic leaders in Dane County.

Faby immigrated to the U.S. with her family from Bolivia when she was just a teenager. Since then, she's focused her life's work on being a leader and advocate for children and families in the Latinx community and beyond. She is a bilingual, bi-cultural senior social worker with the Dane County Department of Human Services, and is the first Immigration Affairs Supervisor in the County.

Faby joined United Way's Board of Directors in 2017, is a member of the Executive Committee, serves on the Vision Council and was previously the Chair of the Education Community Solutions Team. She has been actively involved in United Way's Born Learning work since 2007, which focuses on ensuring children are cared for and have fun as they become prepared for school.

In addition to her passion for education, Faby has served on United Way delegations supporting family wellbeing. A group of Latinx community leaders, with Fabiola as a driving force, was responsible for Cuéntame and Cuéntame Más – hosting listening sessions, conducting research and creating reports that were crucial in shaping investments. She is also one of the founders of "El Día de Los Niños," an annual event to increase awareness about child safety and parenting in Dane County.

Learn more about our amazing honoree, watch a recording of the event and make a gift to support education, go online to http://www.bitly.com/programwub.

"We value Faby's brilliance immensely," says United Way President and CEO Renee Moe. "For almost twenty years, United Way of Dane County has been made stronger because of the expertise, lived experience and passion for social and economic equality she has brought to her volunteer work with us. She is a pillar in our community, and we're so thrilled to be honoring her."

"I would like to thank United Way and Women United for this great honor," says Fabiola. "I am humbled to receive this prestigious recognition. And I am so very fortunate to have the daily opportunity to help people who are very vulnerable. Now more than ever, it is imperative for us to be there for those in need. And I'm proud to work with United Way and Women United, who are dedicated to fighting for these families in Dane County."

With almost \$38,000 raised from this event so far, we are quickly nearing our goal of \$45,000. All proceeds from this event benefit United Way's education initiatives. Thank you to our presenting sponsor BMO Harris Bank, our supporting sponsor Murphy Desmond Lawyers S.C. and our community sponsor, Godfrey Kahn S.C. Additional thanks to CUNA Mutual Group, Exact Sciences, Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin, J.H. Findorff & Son Inc., Madison Gas and Electric, Quartz, Wegner CPAs, American Printing, Goodman's Jewelers and Kendra Scott for their support.

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About Women United:

Women United is a diverse, vibrant community bound together by a powerful sense of belonging – to each other, to our mission and to our community. Women United members fight for the education of every child in Dane County. This local network of more than 800 individuals is an emerging force, investing in and advocating for quality educational experiences from early childhood through high school. To learn more, visit www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/women-united.

About United Way of Dane County:

United Way of Dane County has been tackling Dane County's toughest challenges for 98 years. With a mission to unite the community to achieve measurable results and change lives, we are committed to build a Dane County where everyone can succeed in school, work and life. Through strategic partnerships and collaborative work, United Way brings the many voices of Dane County together to find common ground and develop a strategic architecture for change, while engaging businesses and individuals to give, advocate and volunteer in Dane County. Together, we are The Power of Many. Working for All.