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## Media Release

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## United way of Southwest Oklahoma Kicks Off 2015 Pacesetter Campaign

**Lawton, Okla** – On Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, United Way of Southwest Oklahoma kicked off the 2015 Pacesetter Campaign with luncheon hosted by Comanche County Memorial Hospital. The annual campaign is off to a strong start with an increase of pacesetter companies to 17 this year. These local businesses and organizations set the standard for leadership and community support by taking the challenge to get a jump start on their campaign in July and increase donations through workplace giving. The success and energy generated by our 2015 Pacesetters will help to inspire and guide other businesses to follow the lead when running their own campaigns.

"I am thrilled with the number of Pacesetter companies who have decided to step up and take the lead in our Campaign efforts this year. Their commitment to early workplace campaign efforts are critical in giving us the huge boost we need to kick off our Campaign with momentum and excitement! We are thankful for these community leaders who support our local efforts in improving lives by focusing on our four pillars of a quality life: Education, Income, Health and Safety," said Lauren Ellis, President & CEO.

Pacesetters have a strong history of support for United Way and play a crucial role in the annual campaign efforts. This year's pacesetter companies include: Adventure Travel, Arvest Bank, Comanche County Memorial Hospital, Comanche Home Center, Comanche Nation Entertainment, Cosmetic Specialty Labs, Inc., Fort Sill Federal Credit Union, Fort Sill National Bank, Golden Corral #912, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Johnson and Johnson Locksmith & Door, KSWO TV, Lawton Food Bank, Marie Detty Youth & Family Services Center, Roadback, Inc., Southwestern Medical Center, and Target Lawton.

The 17 Pacesetter Companies run an early campaign to "set the pace" for the General Campaign, which officially kicks off September 3, 2015, at United Way of Southwest Oklahoma's 2nd Annual Campaign Kickoff Event featuring keynote speaker, Jay Hewitt with Finish Line Vision<sup>TM</sup> to be held at The Hilton Garden Inn and Convention Center. Sponsorship opportunities and ticket information is available by calling 580-355-0218 or visiting <a href="https://www.uwswok.org">www.uwswok.org</a>.