

Date: July 11, 2008

Re: For Immediate Release, Stafford's Hospitality makes Contribution to Char-Em United Way 2008/2009 Campaign

Stafford's Hospitality makes First Contribution to United Way 2008/2009 Campaign

On June 18th 2008, Stafford's "Summer Splash" was held on the new "Pointer Patio" at Stafford's Pier Restaurant in Harbor Springs. Approximately 175 guests attended and enjoyed 'first glance' of the summer menu items offered at all Stafford's restaurants.

As part of the annual event, a portion of the proceeds were donated to the Char-Em United Way. Pictured here are Brian Ewbank and David Marvin from Stafford's Hospitality, presenting a check for \$855 to Martha Lancaster, Executive Director of the Char-Em United way. The check presented by Stafford's is the very first to be received as part of this year's campaign. "The first of many, we hope" said Lancaster, " and we have a long way to go!"

Char-Em United Way has been part of the community for over 50 years. It was created in 1995 as the merger of United Way of Emmet County, United Way of Charlevoix and East Jordan, and Boyne Area United Way. These were preceded by a number of local Community Chests. Char-Em's mission is to improve the lives of people in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties by working together to share community resources. With a fundraising goal of over \$300,000, Char-Em United Way provides over \$200,000 in Community Investment Allocations and designated donations to over 35 local agencies including: American Red Cross, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Challenge Mountain, Salvation Army, Hospice of Northwest Michigan, the Manna Food Project, Women's Resource Center, and many more.

Stafford's Hospitality operates 4 properties in Northern Michigan, and has been in operation for over 47 years.

If you are interested in more information on how you can help the United Way, Martha Lancaster can be reached at 231 487-1006 or charemuw@sbcglobal.net.