FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Capital Area United Way’s Physicians United Holds Distribution for Unsung Heroes

Baton Rouge, La. (June 9, 2020) – Capital Area United Way Physicians United, a new affinity group, hosted a distribution to benefit the Unsung Heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic. These Unsung Heroes work alongside physicians and nurses on the frontlines of the pandemic in hospitals, and they include Environment Services Staff and Patient Care Assistants, among others. These staff members are members of the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) population that continue to struggle during the pandemic.

“We were happy to partner with doctors from the Baton Rouge General to make our first distribution through Physicians United a huge success,” said George Bell, President and CEO of Capital Area United Way. “We look forward to partnering with other physicians in our region to ensure the ALICE population is taken care of during this pandemic.”

Each of the nearly 300 frontline healthcare workers from the Baton Rouge General were given over $200 in gift cards to local grocery stores, restaurants, gas stations and fresh produce. Capital Area United Way would like to thank the sponsors of this event including: Hospital Medical Group; Associated Grocers; Shell; Capitol City Produce; Renal Associates; Vascular Specialty Center; Calandro’s Supermarkets, Inc.; Pro*Act; Domino’s Pizza; Mestizo; Bistro Byronz; Raising Cane’s; Doug Olinde, LLC; Sauce & Bones; Checkers; Community Coffee; and, RaceTrac.

Donations to the Physicians United Unsung Heroes Fund can continue to be made at www.cauw.org/physiciansunited.

*Photos Attached

Captions:

**Photo 1:** (L to R) George Bell, President and CEO, Capital Area United Way; Bobby Williams, Associated Grocers; Dr. Venkat Banda, Hospital Medicine Group; Kevin Albritton, Associated Grocers; and, Dr. Raju Vatsavai, Hospital Medicine Group.

Photo 2: Volunteers direct cars into line to receive their materials.

# # #

For more than 95 years, Capital Area United Way has touched thousands of lives in our 10-parish area. We envision a community where everyone is empowered to reach their full potential. Our mission is to solve our community’s toughest challenges by leveraging partnerships to advance the common good in education, income stability, and healthy living. To learn more visit www.cauw.org.