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United Way of Camden County Honors Lewis Katz

United Way of Camden County presented Lewis Katz with the Alexis de Tocqueville Award at its annual Victory and Volunteer Celebration in Pennsauken, NJ on Thursday, March 27. This is United Way's most prestigious award and is presented to individuals who improve the community through outstanding volunteer service, inspire others through their commitment to helping others and who develop new resources to build a stronger, healthier community.

This award is named for Alexis de Tocqueville, a French citizen sent to America in 1830 to study the "great experiment of democracy." He was in awe of America's concern for the greater well being of all.

"Lewis Katz is a walking example of the good will Tocqueville admired," states Michael Moynihan, president of United Way of Camden County. "His extraordinary personal and professional contributions to Camden County have earned him our highest honor."

Katz, a Camden native who rose to the top, always remembers his roots. Growing up in a single-parent household, Katz understands the impact a community can have on its children. Through his involvement in politics, law and entrepreneurship, he uses his connections and success to help build healthier communities for children.

In 2001 Katz brought the Boys & Girls Club to Camden County, creating a safe, supportive atmosphere for hundreds of children throughout the county. The Boys & Girls Club stands on the site of the synagogue Katz attended as a child.

Katz helped the Jewish Federation acquire the land in Cherry Hill where the new Jewish Community Center sits. Named for his parents, the Milton and Betty Katz Jewish Community Center is the hub of activity for people of all ages in Camden County.

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As team owners of the NJ Nets, Devils and NY Yankees, Katz and his partner have pledged their share of team profits to a nonprofit foundation that supports programs and services for children in New Jersey's poorest cities. And, they strongly encourage the athletes to spend time giving back to communities as well.

United Way of Camden County focuses on what matters most to the people in our community. By assessing and responding to the needs of our community, and through individual and corporate partnerships, we are building a stronger Camden County. Our partnerships allow us to direct vital resources to programs and services that support the United Way of Camden County Community Impact Agenda-Building Healthy Children, Strong Families and Safe Neighborhoods.

For more information, contact Kyle Ruffin, United Way of Camden County Vice President of Marketing & Communications, at (856) 963-2720, ext 22 or by email at kyle_ruffin@uwccnj.org.



Lewis Katz, recipient of the 2003 Alexis de Tocqueville Award.

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