

**United Way of Acadiana Honors Acadian Ambulance Service
with Torian Award**



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Lafayette - Hope matters. Volunteers matter. And thank-you's matter.

United Way of Acadiana recognized at its 2006 Community Awards Banquet special individuals and businesses that gave openly and selflessly helped inspire hope throughout Acadiana in 2006.

Margaret Trahan, president/CEO United Way of Acadiana, said the Torian Award recognizes outstanding organizations who go above and beyond the call to give. "This year's recipient is Acadian Ambulance Service," announced Trahan. "Acadian earned a top 10 spot for Leadership Giving and Corporate and Employee Giving. They were fifth for total amount raised, and they had a 55% increase in employee giving over last year. They loaned us two of their best to serve as Loaned Executives during the Annual Campaign."

For more than ten years, Torian Award winners have exemplified the spirit of giving that was such an integral part of John Torian's life. Mr. Torian championed philanthropy. He understood what matters most. And he personally challenged his peers to financially support United Way of Acadiana's efforts to build stronger communities through Leadership Giving.

Past winners include UL, Laborde and Neuner, Capitol One, the Onebane firm, Fugro Companies Lafayette, Iberia Bank, Stone Energy, Chevron, Bank One and Hibernia Bank.

When asked what was the secret behind Acadian's growing support of United Way, President David Pierce explained, "Acadiana is known as a giving community and for volunteerism," he said. "Our employees work hand-in-hand with our community every day, so it is only natural that they understand the value of what United Way of Acadiana means to their friends and neighbors."

Giving is part of the corporate culture, according to HR Director Joe Lightfoot. Lightfoot summed it up best when he said, "The annual United Way campaign is the way to give back to a community that has been good to us."

"Acadian Ambulance epitomizes a good, corporate citizen and is always at the forefront when it comes to giving," said Trahan. Helping Trahan present the award to Acadian President David Pierce were Eva Torian and Robert Torian.



Acadian Ambulance President David Pierce, right, accepted the Torian Award from United Way of Acadiana President/CEO Margaret Trahan and Eva & Robert Torian.