

**For Immediate Release**

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**DETROIT REGIONAL CHAMBER INITIATES  
CELL PHONE RECYCLING PROGRAM TO  
COINCIDE WITH 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Detroit -- The Detroit Regional Chamber announced the initiation of a cell phone recycling program designed to assist member companies by collecting and re-deploying used and unwanted cell phones, while generating funds for United Way Community Services and the Chamber.

The Detroit Regional Chamber is partnering with The Charitable Recycling Program of Bloomfield Hills, and the program will be launched at the Chamber's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration July 16 at Greenfield Village.

The Charitable Recycling Program encourages the donation of used cell phones and will provide a monetary contribution to the Chamber and UWCS for each phone collected. The Program also helps preserve the environment by keeping cell phones out of landfills and helps bring communications to people who might not otherwise be able to afford it through remanufacture and reuse of donated phones.

“Cell phone recycling is a convenient, cost-free service to our members that is greatly needed and just makes good business sense, benefits local charities and is an important step towards protecting our environment,” said Chamber Senior Vice President of Strategic Directions Ed Wolking Jr.

“It is estimated that as many as 150 million cell phones will be retired in the U.S. this year,” said Beth Morawski, Charitable Recycling Program manager. “Used cell phones contain many toxins and should not end up in landfills.”

Recycling benefits more than the environment. Recycled cell phones are used for social good as many donated phones are distributed to 911 (emergency only) services, providing battered women and senior citizens with a direct link to the assistance they need. Other recovered phones are reused in less developed countries where the cost of a new phone is often prohibitive.

The Charitable Recycling Program is unique in that it will accept and make a payment to UWCS and the Chamber for each and every cell phone collected, regardless of age or condition.

“ The Charitable Recycling Program will be a terrific addition for any Chamber member interested in improving their waste reduction, reuse and recycling efforts as well as gaining greater awareness for good community service,” said Morawski.

The Detroit Regional Chamber is the leading business organization in the digital drive and the largest chamber of commerce in the country. The Chamber’s mission – to power the economy for Southeast Michigan – is carried out through business attraction efforts, public policy advocacy, strategic partnerships and quality products and services for members. This year the Chamber celebrates 100 years of serving the business community.

For more information on hosting a charitable recycling cell phone collection, contact Jonnie Sullivan, via email at [jsullivan@twsmail1.com](mailto:jsullivan@twsmail1.com) or call 248-661-1815 or visit: [www.charitablerecycling.com](http://www.charitablerecycling.com) or [www.detroitchamber.com](http://www.detroitchamber.com).

