WHEREAS, the United Way of America is dedicated to making a positive impact in every community across the nation by investing in programs and services that strengthen the ability of local United Ways to identify and build a coalition around a set of community priorities; and

WHEREAS, the United Way movement includes approximately 1,400 community-based United Way organizations, each independent, separately incorporated, and governed by local volunteers; and

WHEREAS, these local United Ways bring communities together to focus on their most important needs – building partnerships, forging consensus, and leveraging resources to make a measurable difference; and

WHEREAS, as leaders in organized giving, local United Ways across South Carolina help the people of the Palmetto State support each other in building stronger, safer, and healthier communities; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 observance of “United Way Month” provides an opportunity to recognize United Ways in South Carolina for their commitment to meeting the educational, social, health, and cultural needs of our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2005 as

UNITED WAY MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize United Ways across the Palmetto State for their many contributions to the strength of our communities and to the continued quality of life of our residents.