

October 22, 2008

Dear Colleagues and Friends,
The annual Connecticut State Employees' Charitable Campaign is underway. In this packet you will find information about the campaign and the agencies that benefit from donations, as well as a form that allows you to contribute by way of a regular deduction from your UConn paycheck.

Last year on the Storrs campus we surpassed all previous records for number of employees - faculty and staff - who participated in the Campaign, and also in the total clollar amount raised. I'd like to see us do even better this year.

It's important that we give back to the community services in our towns and cities that support us, our jobs and our mission as Connecticut's llagship public university. Connecticut citizens contribute their tax dollars and their good will to UConn and I'm very grateful, especially in these difficult economic times.

As you know, many of these same people have been hard-pressed as the year that began with rosy economic forecasts suddenly became cloudy and uncertain. Food and energy prices have risen. Homes have lost value, and there have been foreclosures. Connecticut has lost jobs. All of us are making difficult adjustments, and hard choices.

It's at a time like this, when our communities are at risk and our service agencies are stressed to their limits, that we all need to step up and do something meaningful to help those who face very challenging circumstances. This act of giving brings us together in common purpose, for a public good. Even a small contribution makes a difference, and shows that you care.

So I encourage you to think for a moment about how you can help, and to return the enclosed pleclge card with your commitment to this year's campaign. We are all in this together, and together we will help each other meet this challenge.

I thank you in advance for your support of this year's Charitable Campaign. I'm giving, too.


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