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[Partners in Giving 45 Years of Making a Difference video](#)

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## **2018 Partners in Giving “45 Years of Making a Difference” Campaign Kickoff Is Oct. 8**

*The State, University & UW Health Employees Combined Campaign of Dane County  
Donated Over \$2.5 Million to 520 Charities in 2017*

**MADISON, WI** – An annual fundraising campaign that raises millions of dollars for charity from state, University and UW Health employees in Dane County kicks off Oct. 8 and runs through November.

“Volunteering and donating to this campaign has become a passion for me because I want to help people in my community,” said Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) employee Gloria Palencia.

Palencia, a 31-year-old DOC employee who grew up in the Philippines, is one of hundreds of volunteers behind the 2018 campaign for Partners in Giving, the State, University and UW Health Employees Combined Campaign of Dane County.

The volunteers will organize and host workplace special events like bake sales and costume contests, and offer their colleagues the opportunity to donate to the charities of their choice. For Palencia, it's all about giving back to the community that helped her succeed.

"I moved to the United States when I was 13 years old and my life was never the same after that," she said. "I received an excellent education, have a fantastic job and a beautiful family. I consider myself fortunate."

Palencia and other volunteer supporters are featured in the Partners in Giving 2018 campaign which celebrates 45 years of success. The theme and title of a special video is "Partners in Giving: 45 Years of Making a Difference. Join us!"

During the fall campaign, employees can choose their charity or charities from a list of 520 participating charities and then pick their payment method: cash, check, credit card or payroll deduction.

"It's like, set it and forget it," said Mikel Kind, 29, a UW Health employee and Partners in Giving supporter. "I give a certain amount per paycheck and it actually amounts to quite a bit at the end of the year, and that really makes me feel good," said Kind.

- **In 2017**, more than **6,500** current and retired state, UW and UW Health **employees donated over \$2.5 million to 520 charities.**
- **Since 1973, Partners in Giving has raised over \$77 million** for local, U.S., and international charities with causes ranging from Alzheimer's support to veterans services to wildlife habitat protection.

Partners in Giving volunteers at state agencies and University departments and units will hold 2018 Campaign kickoff events Oct. 8 – 19. Additional special events will be held through November.

For more information on Partners in Giving and its participating charities, please visit [giving.wi.gov](http://giving.wi.gov). For special event information or interview requests, please contact Linda Eggert at [linda.eggert@wisconsin.gov](mailto:linda.eggert@wisconsin.gov).

[2018 Partners in Giving Poster](#)

[New Partners in Giving Video](#)

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