



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STATE & UW EMPLOYEES FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN DONATES
OVER \$2.4 MILLION TO 520 CHARITIES**

*Thousands of employees in Dane County donated to the 2018 campaign;
More than 6,000 gave directly to the charity or charities of their choice*

MADISON, WI – A volunteer-run group of state and UW employees in Dane County donated over \$2.4 million to 520 charities today during a celebration of its 2018 campaign and the volunteers who made it all happen.

[Partners in Giving](#), the State, University and UW Health Employees' Combined Campaign of Dane County, presented a \$2.42 million check to 11 local, state, national and international umbrella charity groups and their 520 member charities during a volunteer recognition event at UW Madison's Union South.

"It's nice to know that as a community we have our neighbors back," said volunteer Mary Pronschinske. "I get immense gratification working with and being a part of Partners in Giving."

Last fall during the [45 years of Making a Difference](#) campaign, 450 Partners in Giving volunteers like Pronschinske, a state Department of Workforce Development employee, offered their state and UW co-workers the chance to donate to the charity or charities of their choice through payroll deduction or other methods. Nearly 6,400 responded and thousands more contributed by taking part in volunteer-hosted bake sales, chili cook-offs, penny wars and other special events.

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“The volunteers are the heart and soul of our campaign,” said Tammy Kuhn-Martin, Co-Chair of the Partners in Giving Administrative Board. “Without them, there would be no check for charity because they make it possible for us to capture the generosity of state, UW and UW Health employees in Dane County.”

At the event, Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) Deputy Secretary Chris Patton and UW Madison Police Chief Kristen Roman distributed special awards to agencies and UW units which excelled during the 2018 campaign and volunteers who were nominated by their peers for their outstanding efforts. Those individual volunteers who received special recognition are:

Innovation Award:

- Lizzie Adamec, Wisconsin Union, UW
- Jennifer Hanrahan, Jay Tucker, Asifa Quraishi-Landes, Law School, UW
- Usha Datta, WI Public Service Commission
- Office of Legal Counsel Support Staff, WI Dept. of Health Services (Kris Blatterman, Rhiannon Buehler, June Gilbert, Jackson Keuler, Bonnie Konsella, Judy Laubmeier, Cortney Mesdjan, Karen Verhagen)

Excellence Award:

- Brianna Reichling, Emergency Medicine, School of Medicine and Public Health, UW
- Bruce Goodman, WI Dept. of Administration
- Buri Lor, Division of Continuing Studies, UW
- Christine Smith, WI Dept. of Public Instruction

Doug Palm Award

- Marjorie Matthew, College of Letters & Science, UW
- Mou Vang, WI Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)

Robert A. Alesch Award

- Brian Rust, Division of Information Technology, UW

Since its inception in 1973, Partners in Giving’s annual campaigns have raised over \$79 million for charitable groups with a wide range of causes. For more information on today’s event, the [participating charities](#) or Partners in Giving, please visit www.giving.wi.gov.

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