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NEWS RELEASE

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CHARITABLE GIVING CAMPAIGN AT UM SETS NEW RECORD

MISSOULA-

The 2006 Charitable Giving Campaign at The University of Montana achieved its most successful year yet with donations of more than \$100,000.

The campaign was launched Oct. 18, and when the event ended a month later, nearly 1,000 UM staff, faculty members and students had given \$102,200.

"This was just a tremendous effort by all of the University employees involved," said Mark LoParco, director of UM Dining Services and chair of the 2006 campaign.

During the Charitable Giving Campaign, campus volunteers distribute informational packets to UM employees, who then can make donations via checks or payroll deductions. The money goes to help community nonprofit agencies. A complete list of participating agencies is online at http://www.umt.edu/urelations/give.htm.

The fund-raising effort that became UM's Charitable Giving Campaign began during the 1986-87 academic year, when 615 people pledged \$25,000. Since then the dollars pledged have risen nearly every year. Last year's campaign total was \$88,799.

"People have been asked to give so much this year, and yet they still reached into their pockets and gave from the heart," said LoParco. "It's great to live in a community and work on a campus that really is trying to create a culture of giving."

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