

TO: University of Massachusetts Medical School Community

FROM: Michael F. Collins, MD, Chancellor

DATE: November 7, 2011

RE: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Employees Charitable Campaign

COMECC: The Power of Our Community

While a gift from one individual can make a small difference, gifts coming from a community can make a statement that we, as members of this institution, are committed in our professional and personal lives to making this state, country and world a better place to live. We all have reasons for supporting specific charitable organizations that are meaningful and impactful in our lives. The strength of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Employees Charitable Campaign (COMECC) is that we have the opportunity to donate to one of these worthwhile charities, and we can do so as a member of a community, reinforcing UMass Medical School's mission for improving the well-being of the people of the commonwealth and the world.

This year's campaign will take place from **November 7 to November 23**. Your tax-deductible contribution can be made through payroll deduction and targeted to the organization(s) of your choice. Low administrative costs ensure that every dollar of your COMECC contribution goes a long way toward addressing causes close to your heart. If you would like to contribute and are unsure of which organization to choose, you might consider an agency such as the United Way, which works to advance the common good by focusing on education, income and health issues at the community level.

This year, our goal is to increase participation to 50 percent and/or the total financial contribution to \$500,000. As economic conditions continue to put pressure on charitable organizations in all communities, your support of COMECC remains essential. For more information, or to make a pledge, visit www.comecc.net.

Thank you for your participation.