December 3, 2021

Dear Lumberjacks,

I want to start by thanking all of you who supported Giving Tuesday. Through your efforts we raised more than $108,000 to provide students with scholarships, faculty funds, and the resources and support students need to overcome obstacles that otherwise might derail their education.

Building on our new Community Engagement Time policy of providing 16 hours of paid volunteer time, I am reaching out today to share another opportunity to support our neighbors and the broader communities we serve. Northern Arizona University has long partnered with the United Way of Northern Arizona, and I’m excited to continue this tradition of giving to not only help those most in need in our community, but also to ensure the long-term health and vitality of our region.

This year, we have set a university-wide goal to have 300 faculty and staff participate to raise $35,000. Rima and I have pledged $3,000, and I am proud to share that members of my executive team and the President’s Office have taken a leading role and have already donated $14,000. We only need 280 employees to help us raise the additional $18,000!

Below are just a few examples of the broad impact even a small donation can have in our community:

- $2 per paycheck = $52/year - Supplies a disaster-affected family with infant formula and supplies, making sure young children stay fed and cared for during the most difficult circumstances
- $5 per paycheck = $130/year - Sponsors four children for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, giving them a book a month and helping to inspire a love of reading and learning at a young age
- $10 per paycheck = $260/year - Provides 21 days of shelter for a local community member who has fallen on hard times and is struggling to make ends meet

If we have 280 employees pledge by December 28, the Office of the President donate an additional $10,000 to the campaign. Reaching that goal and unlocking this donation will make NAU’s minimum contribution to UWNA $45,000, our largest contribution since 2016.

No matter how much you give, all employees who pledge will go into a drawing for prizes, which includes tickets to the Flagstaff Symphony, NAU athletic events, and gift cards to 1899. Your generosity can go a long way for local agencies and
our community.

Visit the NAU UWNA website to pledge your support and help those in need today. Let’s step up for our community!

Thank you!

José Luis Cruz Rivera
President

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