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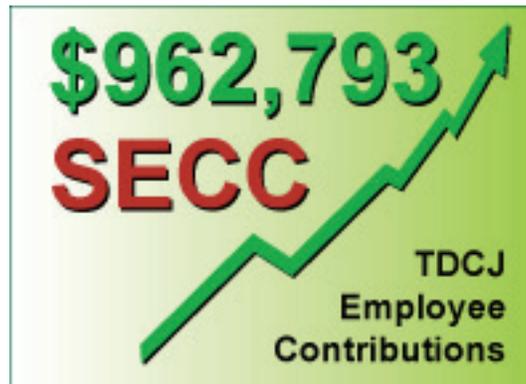
Agency News

Successful 2011 State Employee Charitable Campaign

Charitable organizations are significantly impacted during times of economic hardship. Fortunately, when it comes to helping those most in need, TDCJ employees rise to meet the challenge. Agency employees donated \$962,793 to a variety of charities through the 2011 State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC), beating last year's record by more than \$43,000. Payroll deductions rose to \$614,742, while another \$348,051 was raised through regular donations.

Since 1993, employees of state government, universities, and junior and community colleges throughout Texas have donated to their favorite charities through the SECC, held annually during September and October. In 2010, the SECC raised more than \$9.856 million for certified charitable organizations throughout the state, nation and world. To receive donations, charities must be nonprofit organizations registered with the Secretary of State, audited annually by an accountant, provide direct or indirect health and human services, and spend no more than 25% of funds raised on administration and fundraising.

This year, total contributions increased in nearly every TDCJ region. Payroll deduction participation at the Powledge Unit in Palestine rose 45% during the two-month



campaign, boosting the unit's total charitable contributions to \$20,446, up from \$5,813 in 2010. Employees at the Connally Unit in Kenedy increased their payroll deduction participation and donated more than \$7,957 to bring the unit total to \$18,925. In the Panhandle, payroll deduction participation at the Dalhart Unit jumped from 13% to 45% in one year, and more than \$1,900 in contributions were raised. Meanwhile, the Clements Unit in Amarillo raised \$43,950 through payroll deduction and another \$6,127 in contrib-

uted funds. In east Texas, employees at the Goodman Unit raised their payroll deduction participation from 7% in 2010 to 38% during the 2011 campaign and increased their total donation from \$3,413 to \$9,853.

TDCJ employees are encouraged to hold fundraisers during the campaign. This year, some of the larger SECC fundraisers included a silent auction at the Skyview Unit in Rusk that raised \$4,205 for St. Jude charities and Special Olympics. A golf tournament sponsored by the Wallace Unit in Colorado City brought in \$3,411 for Christmas in Action and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. Parole headquarters in Austin sponsored a silent auction that netted \$3,028 for the March of Dimes and the Roach Unit in Childress held a golf tournament which raised \$3,005 for Special Olympics.

Donations from TDCJ employees have increased each year since 1996. ●