One of every three working families in our region struggles to meet their monthly budget of housing, food, clothing, childcare, transportation and healthcare. **One in three!**

Add in one small emergency, such as a flat tire or ill child, and that family is suddenly in financial crisis even though they work and make daily decisions about their budget. The unfortunate reality is that the cost of living is expensive and most struggling families cannot save for emergencies.

Fortunately there is hope and local help for those on the edge of crisis. This is why Roy and I support the work of the hundreds of local organizations by investing in the MSU Community Charitable Campaign. We understand that our contribution makes a more significant impact by uniting together with thousands of “Team MSU” employees and retirees than it does alone. Plus, it is one important way of living out the land grant mission of MSU.

We are thrilled to kick off the Summer Pacesetter Campaign for the entire MSU community by joining others in the MSU community as Leadership Givers. It is our hope that this gesture prompts you to consider a Leadership Gift at the level of $1,000 or more or any other amount with which you are comfortable. Additionally, we hope to raise more than half our $500,000 goal during the Summer Pacesetter Campaign.

As you consider your investment, please review the [MSU Community Charitable Campaign](#) website for details about how our combined investments will positively impact families and children in crisis. Our goal is to fund the nonprofits that help families remain in their own home, ensure appropriate education for children and support a healthy life for neighbors.

Many options for giving exist again this year, including electronic pledging or paper forms. Gifts may be directed to the United Way Community Impact Fund, one of three human service areas, a listed nonprofit or any IRS-approved charitable nonprofit. Additionally, your gift may be given in one lump sum, periodic payments or increments through payroll deduction.

Thank you so much for considering a generous donation. Together, our investments will have a significant impact on the lives of thousands in the greater MSU community. Please join together and raise our collective impact this year!

Sincerely,

Lou Anna K. Simon, Ph.D.
President