Something Special Happened This Past Year.

n the midst of a sluggish economic recovery, nearly 12,000 people, businesses and foundations gave almost \$77 million in private gifts and pledges to advance the work taking place at the Medical University. Those gifts made it possible to build new facilities, fund scholarships and programs and recruit and retain the best faculty and students, according to Jim Fisher, MUSC's Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs.

"We share a vision and, together, we are able to achieve more than the state alone can afford," Fisher said. "We are very fortunate to have benefactors who support us through their giving, especially during Wall Street's economic challenges. Such a show of support is indicative of the confidence the university's friends have in the mission, leadership and employees of MUSC."

Among the year's high points in philanthropy:

The number of benefactors making a gift to the university increased 6 percent.

Alumni giving grew by more than a third, to \$6.5 million.

Gifts from foundations jumped 66 percent, to 18.8 million.

The largest portion of the year's gifts (\$23 million) came from individuals who did not graduate from the university.

The largest increases in giving occurred in MUSC Children's Hospital (88%), the College of Health Professions (183%) and the Heart & Vascular Center (459%).

And, in one of the more interesting jumps of the year, MUSC employees gave 214 percent more than the previous year.

People who work on this campus didn't just say that they believe in the research, patient care and education provided at MUSC; they emphatically declared it by designating some of their own pay to support programs here.

Giving by faculty and staff nearly tripled in 2011 to more than \$1.1 million in 2012. A large portion of those contributions was raised through the university's Yearly Employee Support (or YES) Campaign, which provides grants to projects that further MUSC's mission.

Since the YES Campaign launched in 1985, employees have contributed more than \$6 million. The average participant gives \$578 per year, or \$1.58 per day. Those donations sustain more than 1,300 programs that range from scholarships to support groups to medical care for patients who otherwise couldn't afford it.

"A gift to the Medical University radiates hope to all our patients, students and faculty," Fisher said. "That gift also radiates out and instills confidence in the minds of potential donors. When an MUSC employee invests in our workplace, it speaks volumes to our friends off campus."

Highlights from Last Year's Accomplishments

A Look Back at the Fiscal Year

Krista Mysock knew during her pregnancy that one of her twin boys faced a complicated first few weeks of life, and she knew she wanted him to spend those days at MUSC.

Parker was diagnosed with an omphalocele, an abdominal wall defect in which his intestines developed outside his body within a thin layer of tissue. While his brother, Griffin, went home after a couple weeks of monitoring, Parker spent more than a month in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and underwent two surgeries to repair his tiny belly.

"We knew when we were having twins that we wanted to be here," said Krista, who worked in MUSC Student Services at the time. "We were so fortunate to know about the omphalocele ahead of time, it allowed us to prepare and know what to expect mentally and emotionally. Not everyone is so lucky."

Krista and her husband, Justin, found comfort in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, a place where patients' parents spend some of the most draining days of their lives. "We got to know the nurses, physicians and respiratory therapists," Krista said. "They helped make a difficult time less scary because of their commitment to patient care and family."

Griffin and Parker are now healthy 1 ½-year-old boys.

Once they both came home, Krista felt drawn to work in pediatrics.

She now serves as a residency coordinator in the Department of Pediatrics and, each year, she gives back to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit through the YES Campaign

