

FALL 2014

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Candler's past and present rooted in giving



Lisa V. Parker, MyEmory volunteer representative, Candler School of Theology

For staff and faculty who wish to honor Candler's centennial, Parker suggests supporting the Theology School Fund for Excellence. Every contribution currently supports tuition scholarships, a major priority for the school. Candler's scholarship program ranks among the best for theology schools nationally, with 85 percent of eligible students receiving support during the 2013–2014 academic year. The average amount of scholarship funding covered 60 percent of tuition.

AS CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS, its faculty and staff have helped the school achieve another milestone—Emory's highest rate of annual employee giving. Candler had the highest MyEmory participation rate (70 percent) for the 2013–2014 fiscal year, and MyEmory volunteer Lisa V. Parker says this is a reflection of Candler's strong sense of community.

"Every time we welcome new staff, we're able to introduce them to someone who has been here 20 years," says Parker, a financial aid adviser. "When we opened our new building for Pitts Theology Library last month, a professor and I reminisced about watching Bishop's Hall go down and seeing phases 1 and 2 of the new building emerge. At Candler, there are full-circle moments like that and a sense of working hard together to make that happen. The energy and atmosphere at Emory start with sharing."

Parker, who came to Emory in 2001, also has seen the results of giving beyond Candler. She served on the Employee Council and chaired the Employee Hardship Fund, which she continues to support through her MyEmory payroll deduction. The hardship fund provides emergency financial assistance to staff and faculty who have suffered a catastrophic event. "Some of my most rewarding work was being able to decide how to help families get back on their feet," she says.

Giving through MyEmory is an investment, Parker points out. "I am tied to Emory because of its investment in me and my investment in it," she says. "Few places allow an employee to contribute to a fund that assists fellow faculty and staff—and can be used by any of us. We are very fortunate to have the Employee Hardship Fund."



2014–15 Emory Alumni Board Leadership Scholarship recipients Jessica Hirst 15N (left) and Lurit Bepo 16M

Retired staff member inspires scholarship giving through MyEmory

Jessica Hirst 15N works with refugees and helps community members who have developmental disabilities. Lurit Bepo 16M volunteers in metro Atlanta health care clinics and leads Emory’s Student National Medical Association. Both received the 2014–15 Emory Alumni Board Leadership Scholarship, an honor that recognizes outstanding student leadership.

The scholarship exists largely due to the efforts of Martha Fagan, who retired in October 2013. As senior director of the Emory Alumni Association, she helped board members establish the scholarship in 2007 to recognize and reward student leadership.

In honor of Fagan’s retirement after 38 years at Emory, colleagues and alumni contributed additional gifts to the fund, celebrating her imprint on the creation and success of the EAB Leadership Scholarship.

“With payroll deduction . . . you can give a little bit a month and get this great feeling.”

—MARTHA FAGAN

“That was really overwhelming,” says Fagan, whose gifts through MyEmory supported the scholarship fund. “This scholarship is one of the things I’m most proud of, and it was a beautiful way to honor my service to Emory.”

As of September 2014, gifts and pledges to the scholarship fund totaled nearly \$700,000, and the goal is to increase the fund to \$1 million. For Fagan, the students who receive the scholarship epitomize the reason she’s proud the EAB Leadership Scholarship exists.

“With payroll deduction through MyEmory, you can give a little bit a month and get this great feeling,” Fagan says. “You’re giving to an institution that educates amazing students who will go out in the world and do really special things.”



First Person

“I met the recipient of the Michael Overstreet Scholarship at Oxford, a fund I have supported for years. When she told me the difference this scholarship had made for her and her family, there were tears in her eyes. That’s why I give through MyEmory.”



Kate Gregory Ericksen 09C
Recruiting Specialist
Emory University Human Resources
MyEmory Volunteer Representative
Gives to the Overstreet Scholarship Fund and Winship Lymphoma Program Fund



Adedapo Olamide Odetoyinbo 13PH
Emory Healthcare Physician
Hospitalist, Internal Medicine
Gives to Emory Johns Creek Hospital

“As a physician caring for hospitalized patients, I see that the cost of a single medication or piece of equipment is all too often the last obstacle standing in the way of a safe hospital discharge. Through the MyEmory Healthcare employee giving program, I am proud to be able to contribute to Emory Johns Creek Hospital’s Helping the Underserved Gain Support (HUGS) program, giving our dedicated team of social workers resources to assist my patients at the time of their greatest need.”





(L to R) Terry Gilkes, Tracy Hicks, Sharon Pruitt, Linda Hall, Cecelia Anderson-Atencio, and Elease Brown

Emory University Hospital Midtown donors ensure smoother patient transportation

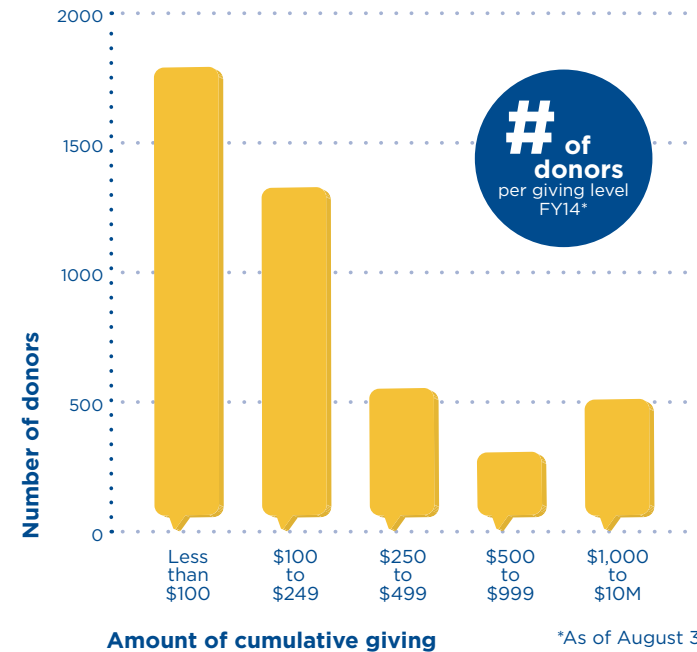
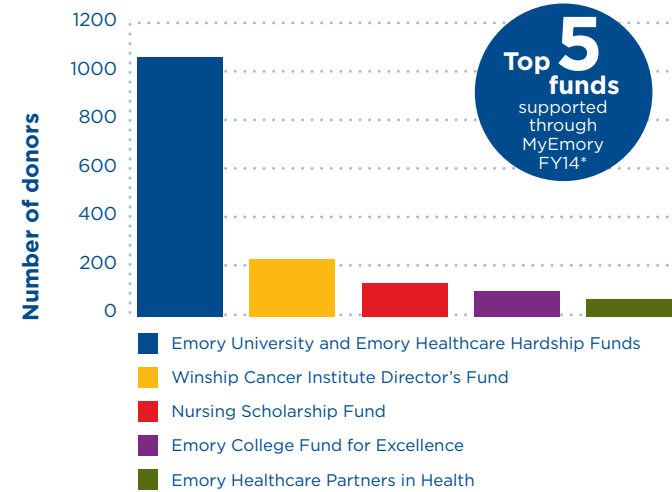
Details matter to the patient access team at Emory University Hospital Midtown, which used gifts from staff and community donors through MyEmory Healthcare to purchase a bariatric wheelchair and luggage cart to help patients move from admissions to hospital rooms.

"It is important that our relationship with patients and families be warm, professional, and respectful," says Elease Brown, assistant director of patient access. "These items help the staff do just that."

Along with an abundance of luggage, some patients arrive carrying great apprehension. "Anything we can do to make our guests comfortable and confident is important to us," says Patient Access Manager Cecelia Anderson-Atencio. "We are grateful to the employee and community donors who make gifts that make a difference."

Donors to the Emory University Hospital Midtown Fund for Excellence also provided portable vein finders, a patient and family business center, and car seats that protect tiny infants discharged from the neonatal intensive care unit.

By the numbers



*As of August 31, 2014



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