Dear MIT faculty and staff,

December is a time to reflect on our good fortune and think about how we might make the world a brighter place in the coming year. While we enjoy the benefits of being at a world class institution, just a few blocks away from the MIT campus there are people in Cambridge in need. Community Giving at MIT and our flagship program the MIT Community Service Fund (CSF) bring together generous donors with MIT volunteers to strengthen local nonprofits and our neighboring communities. As faculty chairs of these important and long-standing programs, we appreciate the deep commitment by colleagues and students – in dollars and in deeds – to our neighbors. We encourage you to support our local community by renewing or beginning your support of the MIT Community Service Fund.

This year, the CSF awarded $66,000 in grants that have a positive impact on our local community in three significant ways:

- Offering essential financial support to Cambridge nonprofits where MIT volunteers are at work;
- Providing ongoing support to the MIT PKG Public Service Center, which prepares MIT students for a lifetime of active and effective public service.

A few highlights of volunteer activities supported by the MIT Community Service Fund

**BioBits:** A PhD student in Biological Engineering created low-cost kits to help high school teachers demonstrate biology models to students.

**MIT BoSTEM Scholars:** Students in Brain and Cognitive Sciences developed a rigorous, five-week summer program for high school students underrepresented in STEM fields.
through rigorous and challenging programs; and

- Imparting funding and guidance for creative MIT service initiatives that leverage volunteer talent to address community needs.

If you have already contributed through Community Giving at MIT, thank you! To participate now, you may donate to the MIT Community Service Fund or the local charity of your choice on the Atlas "Charitable Contributions" page, where you can donate via payroll deduction, check, or credit card. MIT does not deduct any administrative or credit card fees from your donation; the Community Service Fund or selected agency will receive 100% of your donation. Please also consider becoming a sustaining donor, where your automated payroll deductions provide consistent financial support.

Please contact Community Giving at MIT at 617-253-7914 or community-giving@mit.edu for assistance with your donation or with any questions.

With gratitude,

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