HOLYOKE – Through the collective efforts of alumni, faculty, staff, retirees, board members, and friends, the Holyoke Community College Foundation exceeded its Giving Tuesday goal this year, raising $16,055 for the President’s Student Emergency Fund, student scholarships, and the HCC Thrive Student Resource Center. Not only that, but thanks to a fundraising challenge, Peg Wendlandt ’58 and her husband Gary donated an additional $28,530 to the President’s Student Emergency Fund, for a Giving Tuesday total of $44,585.

“Thanks to Peg and Gary’s matching gift, we raised $42,795 for the President’s Student Emergency Fund on Giving Tuesday,” said Julie Phillips, HCC coordinator of Alumni Affairs. “Alumni from as far away as Illinois, Florida, and North Carolina answered the call to support HCC students this year. We are humbled and deeply grateful for all their generosity and support.”

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving that was celebrated this year on November 30.

The HCC Foundation’s goal for Giving Tuesday 2021 was $15,000. HCC alum Margaret “Peg” (Laframboise) Wendlandt ’58 and her husband Gary pledged to triple donations designated for the President’s Student Emergency Fund.

The Wendlandts’ challenge was part of a larger pledge they made to the foundation this fall. If the HCC Foundation raises $50,000 by Dec. 30, 2021, the Wendlandts will give an additional $100,000 to the Student Emergency Fund.

HCC President Christina Royal established the President’s Student Emergency Fund in 2017 to assist students facing immediate and critical financial needs. Longtime supporters of the college, the Wendlandts have twice before made challenge pledges to support the emergency fund, for $20,000 and $100,000.

“It’s not too late for people to contribute and triple their impact,” Phillips said. “For every $50 we get before the end of the year, the Wendlandts will donate $100.”

To make a donation to the HCC President’s Student Emergency Fund, please visit hcc.edu/triple-impact.