Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Each year, letter carriers, along with other postal and federal employees, have the opportunity to donate to charities through the Combined Federal Campaign. I am asking for your help in ensuring this year’s campaign is successful, and I invite you to join me in supporting the Combined Federal Campaign by making a pledge or donation to the charity (or charities) of your choice.

As hardworking letter carriers and postal employees, we enjoy wages that give us the ability to take care of ourselves and our families by providing food, shelter, clothing and health care. Unfortunately, many Americans either are unable to do so, or encounter unforeseen circumstances that shatter their ability to meet those basic needs. Whether due to economic circumstance, illness or natural disaster, many require help.

Each day within the communities where we live and deliver the mail, many of us encounter people who are enduring real-life problems. Throughout the year, we help people and do good throughout our communities by collecting food, providing clothing, mentoring children and looking after those who are vulnerable. We must continue to be good citizens by involving ourselves in these and other community efforts. However, it does not end there. The Combined Federal Campaign allows us easy access to contribute to charities that we care about through payroll deductions."

Rolando asked letter carriers to consider donating to three charities in particular: the Postal Employees’ Relief Fund (PERF), the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and United Way Worldwide.

PERF provides financial support to postal employees whose homes are damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. The charity is run by the four postal employee unions and three management organizations, whose members support PERF through voluntary donations. PERF grants money to homeowners and renters alike to help with deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses that insurance claims don’t cover, and to assist with replacement of lost property and temporary housing. Information and applications for PERF assistance can be found on its website, postalrelief.com.

MDA research grants support more than 250 research projects worldwide, as well as camps and activities for children who have one of these diseases. For more information, go to mdausa.org.

MDA is NALC’s official charity. It is the world’s leading non-profit health organization sponsoring research into the causes of, and effective treatments for, neuromuscular diseases.

United Way Worldwide is the leadership and support organization for the network of nearly 1,800 community-based United Ways in 45 countries and territories. The United Way’s mission is to bring about a world where all individuals and families realize their human potential through education, income stability and health. For more information, go to unitedway.org.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Fredric V. Rolando

President