



## ***Why I participate in CFC ... one person can make a difference***

2011 LFCC Chair, Allison McIntyre, featured on "inside JSC" on NASA JSC website.



By Allison McIntyre  
SVMF Deputy Chief  
CFC Texas Gulf Coast LFCC Chairperson

I've participated in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) since I became a civil servant more than 20 years ago. You know, a few hundred dollars through payroll deduction, nothing painful or significant. I picked organizations that I cared about that year, but really didn't give it much thought beyond that. Then in 2005, I was selected as the Loaned Executive to the Campaign from JSC. I spent that fall

visiting different federal agencies in the Houston area, including Social Security, working in the United Way building in Houston, and got to see lots of charitable organizations up close. That was the year of Katrina and Rita. I spent a holiday handing out clothes in the Astrodome. I saw the 211 service in action. I saw so many organizations making a difference to thousands of people in need. In short, I saw all the good these organizations can do with just a little money and some donated items. I was hooked on CFC.

After my service as Loaned Executive, I was asked to stay on as a Local Federal Coordinating Committee member and have been involved ever since. This team of volunteer federal employees reviews the applications of all the local organizations, helps set the theme and goals for the overall area campaign, and helps train the employee coordinators.

I know CFC very well and truly believe in the power we as federal employees have to make a difference in our community. I believe that CFC Texas Gulf Coast are good stewards of the funds you donate. I like that we screen our applicants. I like that we get to designate who gets our contributions. I like that we have large and small organizations to select and that they can be across the world or across the street. I feel in these economic times and with all the distress around the world, we are truly lucky to have the jobs we have and relative security. I feel we have an obligation to give back to make our community, nation and the world a better place. One person truly can make a difference.

Now I am a long time Leadership Eagle Club Member. I have served as my division coordinator for several years and have enjoyed spreading my enthusiasm for giving. I put more thought into the organizations I select: looking them up on-line, using their admin cost data, and trying to spread out my donation to different types of organizations including those benefiting children, animals, the environment and health concerns. I have also helped several organizations join the CFC over the last several years.

CFC Texas Gulf coast almost hit \$3 Million last year. Of that, JSC donated over \$750,000. That is quite an accomplishment! We achieved that with only 36% of civil servants donating. Imagine the impact we could have if we had 50% or even 75% of our employees donating \$10 or \$20 per pay period. I still don't miss the money I donate, even though it is significantly more than it used to be.

Why do I participate? It is more out of pride that I can than obligation that I should.