

Why I Give?

Throughout my career I have seen coworkers and friends experience many difficulties and tragedies. I myself have experienced these times. Several agencies that have assisted my work family and my family are listed in the CFC Campaign.

My mother battled cancer for 23 years. As the long battle was ending, Hospice was there not only for her but for us, the family. They treated her with dignity and lavished her with love. Whether she was in their facility or when she was able to be at home, she was cared for and made very comfortable to the last day.

Many people are not fortunate to have family to help. Many do not have the fortitude to fight alone through their circumstances. Many lack hope and faith that there will be better days, either because they have been so emotionally beaten or they are just tired of struggling. There are many agencies that can help, provide hope, and shine the light so the end of the tunnel doesn't seem so far away. Progress is within reach, change is possible, hearts can be moved and minds can be strengthened through the kind hand and help provided from those that believe they can make a difference.

I have to say that sometimes, as human nature is, I contemplate in maybe giving less or not giving for a year. I am sure many have thought the same. But, I stop and think the foolish ways and unnecessary things I spend money on. The key word is unnecessary.

I may spend money on a soda, cigarettes, lipstick, things that provide personal satisfactions but unnecessary none the less. I may spend about \$20.00 buying these three things. The same twenty dollars can make a difference to a shelter for battered women, a shelter for abused children, research to find a cure for cancer. If every person gave a little it would add up to a lot.

One drop at a time, one bucket at a time ... we can fill a pool. How long it takes depends on the willingness of the people.

I give because every person has a responsibility to their community. I give because I care, because I believe ... I do make a difference.