



Why I Give? I have seen the CFC Give Back

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I've been giving to the Combined Federal Campaign for as far back as I can remember. In my 33 years of federal service, I cannot recall a time when I haven't contributed.

I saw first-hand the impact that a charitable organization has had on someone I know. In 1997, an employee was facing a difficult time. His wife was battling cancer. I received a substantial check from one of the CFC organizations to assist the employee with medical bills. The same CFC organization provided a subsequent check to the employee when sadly his spouse lost her battle. I saw how generous these agencies can be especially during a difficult and unexpected time.

I have talked to students who have admitted that if not for a particular charitable organization, they would not have been able to attend college – an opportunity that changed the course of their life.

I have been the Chair of the CFC Texas Gulf Coast region for the last two years. We have steadily improved our combined donations. Last year, we donated \$2.9 million with only 30% percent of our workforce participating. This year, I am confident that we can reach \$3 million.

I attended the U.S. Post Office's kickoff event and proposed the slogan, "The Post Office Delivers." I attended the IRS's kickoff event and proposed the slogan, "The IRS Gives Back", and for CBP I propose the slogan, "The Buck Doesn't Stop Here". These slogans are a way for federal employees to demonstrate their enthusiasm for this campaign.

For many employees, the monthly contribution is not missed. It doesn't change their lifestyle, but it could change the life of someone benefiting from the donation. There are some agencies and benefactors who make matching contributions which means a donation can go even further. Imagine if 1,000 employees gave just a one-time donation of \$5 and those donations were matched. The result would be \$10,000 and those one-time donations would go a long way to support a charity.

A donation, whether it's a small one-time donation or a larger monthly contribution could be the last funding a researcher needs to find a cure. It could fill the pantry of a neighbor, send a child to college, or help bury a colleague's loved one.

As federal employees, our generosity never ceases to amaze me. We give because as members in our community, we care about our neighbors, we care about our community, and we care about our country. We give because we care.