



News Release

**US Army Corps
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Mississippi Valley Division

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FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ADD NEW CHAPTER TO HISTORY OF GIVING

Vicksburg, Miss., January 21, 2000 – As they have for the past 38 years, federal employees this fall have pledged to help those in need by contributing to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The CFC is the singular fundraising event for charitable organizations in the federal workplace. This year's campaign began September 1 and continued through Dec. 15.

Under the direction of Janice R. Lachance, the Office of Personnel Management is responsible for oversight of the CFC. "Federal employees have a long history of generosity and commitment to those inside and outside their communities. It is no surprise that the CFC continues to be the largest and most successful workplace fund-raising model in the world," Lachance said.

The mission of the Combined Federal Campaign is to support and to promote philanthropy through a program that is employee-focused, cost-efficient and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

CFC's tradition of commitment to the community through the selfless efforts of federal employees has its roots in the many charitable campaigns of the early 1960s. Although federal employees had been giving to charitable organizations since the late 1940s, formal authority to permit such fundraising in the federal workplace was established much later. In 1961, President Kennedy signed Executive Order 10927 making the CFC a reality. In doing so, he authorized the U.S. Civil Service Commission to develop guidelines and regulate fundraising in the federal service.

Seeing a need to bring the diversity of fundraising efforts under one umbrella, federal employees created the CFC – one campaign, once a year. By allowing employees to select from a single guide and making their contributions through payroll deductions, the CFC opened wide the door to more opportunities for generous giving to literally hundreds of worthy causes. Before long, an innovative idea became a uniquely effective way for federal employees to help those in need in their individual communities and throughout the world. Today, the CFC is the only authorized solicitation of employees in the federal workplace on behalf of charitable organizations. It continues to be the largest and most successful workplace fundraising model in the world.

The 1999 Combined Federal Campaign currently consists of 387 regional campaigns including the CFC of Warren County, Miss., chaired by Maj. Gen. Phillip R. Anderson, commander of the Mississippi Valley Division Corps of Engineers. The efforts of all the outstanding leaders who chair these regional campaigns are vital to the overall success of the campaign. In 1998, campaign receipts were \$206.4 million, the highest annual amount ever collected in the history of the CFC.

As part of this year's campaign kick-off events in October, the first-ever White House Conference of Philanthropy: Gifts to the Future, convened to highlight the unique American tradition of giving, discuss the diverse and changing face of philanthropy and emphasize our responsibility to teach this tradition to future generations.

Mary Grayson, a longtime federal donor to the CFC, was invited to attend the event. Ms. Grayson was one of eleven "Heroes of Philanthropy" – individuals who have helped to make a significant difference through giving and volunteering in their local CFC campaigns. She has worked at the U.S. Postal Service for 30 years and began contributing to the CFC in 1974.

All federal employees have the right to contribute or not to contribute to the CFC.