



The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) recently approved the extension of the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area until January 30, 2009. Therefore, the campaign here at USDA has also been **extended through January 30.** As of December 17, USDA has collected just over \$1 million from 2,151 donors throughout the Agencies and Staff Offices. This represents 52% towards our monetary goal of \$1,970,000 and participation by 22% of USDA employees in the National Capital Region.

Thanks to those who have already pledged to the CFC this year! To those who are still considering – **THERE IS STILL TIME!** During this season of giving, it isn't the amount of the gift, but the spirit behind the gift – even small donations can make a difference to one of the nearly 4,000 charitable organizations. Just consider:

- Every dollar donated to the CFC can provide three meals to children at risk from hunger – so \$1.00 or \$2.00 a pay period (the cost of a soda or coffee) can make a difference;
- \$10.00 a pay period can improve Medicare coverage for 50 low-income elderly people; provide a student with a school lunch each day or school supplies for a full year.

The possibilities and needs are endless! As you spend time with your family and friends during this Holiday Season, remember those less fortunate and consider giving to the CFC!

If you are interested in pledging, but are unsure how to go about doing so, please visit the USDA CFC website at: www.cfc.usda.gov to view a listing of Agency CFC Coordinators who will be happy to assist.

Happy Holidays!

Boyd K. Rutherford
Assistant Secretary for Administration