

**Remarks by Charles Bolden  
NASA Administrator  
2009 Combined Federal Campaign Kickoff  
and Awards Ceremony**

**October 22, 2009**

**Combined Federal Campaign**

Good morning and welcome to NASA Headquarters Federal Kick-Off of the Combined Federal Campaign. CFC provides a wonderful opportunity that allows all us as Federal employees show an act of love and compassion as we seek to help our children, neighbors and even fellow NASA employees.

The CFC has more than 4000 charities available that assist communities with challenges and critical needs such as healthcare, education, safety relief, and most of all, hope for the future.

Since the inception of the CFC funds have been utilized to provide such basics as emergency survival kits that include food, blankets, water, and temporary shelters for individuals affected by natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, wild fires, and

tsunamis. We see children living in poverty in other countries, but here in the United States in these very challenging economic times, poverty and homelessness are taking an even greater toll on our fellow citizens than ever before.

NASA's Vision states in part: "To understand and protect our home planet, to explore the Universe and search for life, and to inspire the next generation of explorers... as only NASA can". Our Mission Statement includes: "To improve life here, to extend life to there, to find life beyond". As you all know, we in NASA have that "Yes We Can Attitude". It's that attitude that landed humans on the Moon; restored the Hubble Space Telescope to better scientific capability than it was even envisioned at its creation; and put robotic rovers on the distant planet, Mars, as a precursor to some day delivering humans to our terrestrial neighbor. This is the attitude that allowed us in 2008 to increase participation in the Combined Federal Campaign and raise more funds than we ever did before. I'm appealing to all of you in the NASA family to exhibit this same "yes we can" attitude this year to enable us to meet or exceed our goal of raising \$260,000

during this campaign. Though we have established a monetary target, what is more important to me is to insure that we have 100% participation from all NASA employees. No matter what your financial ability – give whatever you can. Every dollar will help someone or some cause. We are compassionate people and we have the ability to make this a banner year for our CFC participation. I hope that every one of you will join me in doing your part by contributing to the 2009 Combined Federal Campaign.

Let's join together and prove, as this year's CFC theme says, that we have the "Compassion of Individuals and The Power of Community". (2009 theme)

Again, thanks for joining us for the CFC Kick-off and have a wonderful NASA Day.