

# Department of Defense:

*The Cornerstone of the Combined Federal Campaign!*

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By Louis G. Torchia

Director, Voluntary Campaign Management Office HRD/WHS/OSD

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Imagine! \$16 million pledged to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) by Department of Defense (DoD) employees assigned or deployed overseas (some in war zones). Many of the department's Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Civilians witness firsthand the vast need around the world that some CFC charities seek to address.

All DoD employees have been exposed to health, human service, and environmental services provided by other CFC charities on national and local levels at home. When our nation calls, DoD answers, whether it's to defend our nation from harm or improve the lives of others.

These generous campaign results from Overseas personnel represent only part of DoD employees' generosity. Another \$15.6 million was pledged by Defense employees working in the National Capital Area (NCA). Add \$40 - 50 million pledged by DoD's CONUS-based employees outside the NCA, and you have \$70 - 80 million coming from those who might pay the ultimate price to protect and defend our way of life, going to improve lives throughout the world.

Each year, the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign and the only authorized Federal workplace giving program, raises millions of dollars to support thousands of non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has oversight of the entire program.

CFC provides a cost-effective way for charities to reach out to hundreds of thousands of Federal employees, while eliminating the need for agencies to try to contact the donors individually. Donors can donate by payroll deduction, spreading their pledges throughout the year, or by cash or check.

There are more than 300 geographically-based CFC campaigns throughout the country and internationally that allow federal and postal employees to donate to international, national and local charities during a six-week period each fall.

This year, as in years past, Department of Defense (DoD) employees are leading the way, contributing between \$70 and 80 million of the overall \$270 million pledged. DoD's CFC Program Director, Lou Torchia said, "I continue to be amazed at and in awe of the generosity of America's defenders. Many of the donors are pledging support for those in need with their hard earned money while their lives are literally on the line. This is my third campaign with DoD and I see defense employees' pledging more and more every year. It is uplifting because we all know the needs grow every day."

Torchia added, "This campaign is affirming in so many ways...nowhere else do so few come together for such a short time to do so much for so many." **R&NG**

