

# I'D GIVE TO CFC BUT...

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***"I can't find an organization that I care to support."***

There are hundreds of organizations listed in the CFC booklet in every area one can imagine (environment, improving government, many veterans service organizations, children's care, elder care, educational scholarships, research, religious organizations and MANY others too numerous to mention). If one has something they think is worth supporting, there are many worthy organizations to choose from.

***"I'm not sure how the organization will spend my money."***

In all entries in the CFC booklet, you will see a number that declares the percentage of funds that are utilized for fund raising and other administrative overhead costs. An organization where this number is greater than 25% will have the percentage highlighted.

Also note that almost every organization now has a website that you will also find listed in the booklet. These are often a great source of information about the work of the organization and how your donation will be spent.

Also visit websites such as [www.give.org](http://www.give.org) (the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance site). They look at each organization and rate it in such areas as the amount of impact it is having and how responsible it is about handling donated funds.

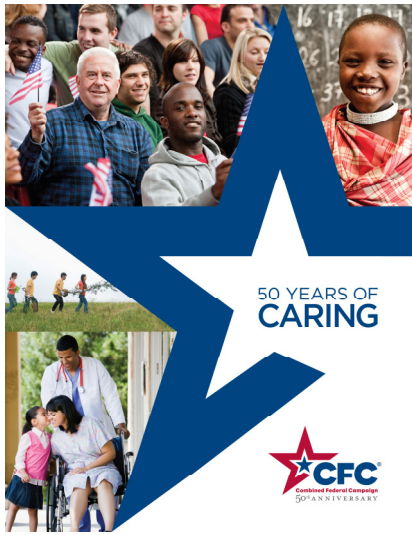
***"This has been a rough year financially. Maybe I can afford to contribute to next year's campaign."***

More than the size of a contribution, perhaps what matters most is your participation as a part of the family federal employees who support the CFC year after year. If finances are a problem for this year, remember that even a small contribution makes a real difference; many contributors give as little as a dollar a pay period or make a one-time contribution of a small amount.

***"If I donate to CFC, I will be receiving many more solicitations from these organizations. I already get too much mail!"***

There is a box on the pledge form that you can check if you do not wish for your identify to be revealed to the organizations to which you contribute and you





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will not be contacted by them.

***“Fortunately, I’ve always worked hard and I have never had to rely on a charitable organization for help. These organizations have never benefited me or my family.”***

Don’t be too sure of that! No matter our individual situations, ALL of us have benefited from research conducted by CFC organizations. Chances are good that even if you have not directly had to request assistance from an organization, you or a family member have benefited from their work.

In addition, many CFC organizations respond to needs that are not income-based, such as environmental issues, literacy, and youth development.

***“The CFC booklet has SO many organizations that it is overwhelming! I don’t have time to sort through the whole thing.”***

Many organizations have grouped together by area, so donating to one of these “umbrella” organizations will get your donation to kind of organization where you want it to be used.

Also keep in mind that you can donate to the CFC and the distribution of funds will be made at CFC’s discretion. It is not required that you specify particular organizations.

Finally, you may get ideas about which organizations you would like to contribute to by following the lead of your fellow employees.

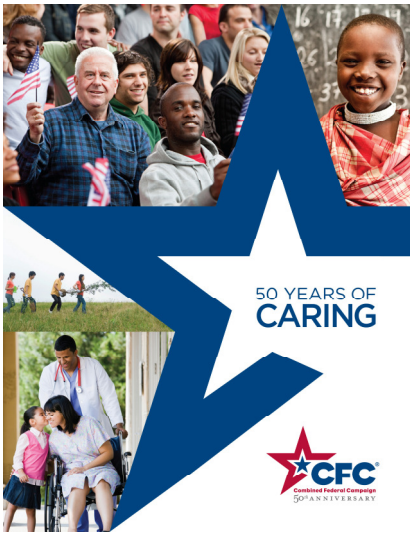
***“I’d prefer for my donation to be used locally, not in some far off place.”***

A whole section of the CFC booklet is devoted to local organizations. If you want your donation to be used locally, it is easy to identify local organizations.

***“My supervisor says that I have to return my pledge card, even if I am not making a contribution this year. If I am not making a contribution, why do you need the card back?”***

In many studies, people have commented that they don’t contribute to organizations for the simple reason “I was never asked”. The decision to contribute belongs to each individual, but we want to be sure that each employee has indeed “been asked” and has had any information they needed to make an informed choice about their





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contribution. Getting 100% return of all pledge cards allows us to ensure that everyone has at least had the opportunity to participate.

***“I already make numerous contributions and do not need to also contribute to the CFC.”***

Many of us make contributions outside of CFC. But CFC is special in that it permits us, as federal employees, to collectively be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Your contribution to CFC is not just from you, it is also a part of agency's overall contribution that tells everyone that, both as individuals and federal employees, “we care”.

CFC can be a part of your strategy of giving; it is not intended to be the only avenue, unless you prefer it that way. CFC, among so many other things, is a very convenient way to show support.

***“I work hard; if I have benefited from any of these organizations, it has been incidental, not because I asked for support. I take care of myself. Why should I take part of my hard-earned pay and give it away?”***

This is a question almost as old as humankind - and we won't pretend to do it justice here. We might sum it up by saying that perhaps the sincerest form of gratitude is sharing. If you are healthy enough to hold down a job - when so many have poor health, if you have a good job- when so many do not, if you have a good education - when many live with the limitations of ignorance, if those you love are whole and healthy - while so many are not, there is perhaps no better way to demonstrate your gratitude than sharing a bit of your good fortune so that others less fortunate may improve their lives.

It has been said that organizations exist because things need to be accomplished that cannot be done by one individual. CFC and the many organizations it supports lets us all accomplish those kinds of things. Be a part of something BIG and make a difference!

