



Combined Federal Campaign drive kicks off Sept. 30

by Connie J. Schlosberg
21st Space Wing Project Management Division

9/23/2008 - **PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** -- The Combined Federal Campaign of the Pikes Peak Region is having its annual fundraising drive from Sept.30 through Nov. 13.

The CFC is the only authorized solicitation of employees in the federal government workplace on behalf of charitable organizations. Every year, federal, military and postal employees are encouraged to help raise much-needed dollars through the CFC for qualified non-profit charities. Every charitable organization is screened by the CFC. All money contributed to the CFC is disbursed to the charitable organizations that the donors specify to receive their contributions. Unspecified amounts are distributed equally among the participating charities.

The CFC's mission is to support and 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. Started in 1964 by federal employees, the CFC's intent was to bring the diversity of fundraising efforts under one umbrella, creating one campaign per year. In 1971, President Nixon ordered the CFC to be the uniform fundraising effort for federal service. This effort allows federal employees to choose from more than 2,000 charitable agencies from one brochure and simplify contributions through payroll deductions. The CFC created a win-win situation, where employees can easily practice philanthropy and charities have opportunities to receive generous donations. The CFC is the most successful, as well as the largest fundraising program in the world!

CFC contributions for 2007 set the record by exceeding \$271 million with \$2.2 million coming from the Pikes Peak region. This year's campaign theme is 'Faces of Change.' We have the power to change our community, our nation and our world for the better. Our contributions can help bring hope to those who could really use it. This is our chance to use our generosity to eradicate disease, illiteracy, hunger, poverty and homelessness. Any donated amount is significant in making an impact on human health and welfare. For example, an annual contribution of \$200 (only about \$8 per pay period) can buy schoolbooks and supplies for eight underprivileged children per year. All contributions to the CFC can be tax deductible. A small amount each paycheck adds up to a huge difference.

Soon volunteer key workers will be requesting our participation in joining the team of donors who are making a difference. Be a part of the solution and donate to one or more of the many causes changing society for the better. There will also be two new CFC awareness events -- a Kickoff 5K Fun Run and a charity fair with representatives from local charities -- for the 2008 campaign. Both events will be held on Oct. 1. The run begins at 11:30 a.m. at Peterson's fitness center. Sign up for the run at the base fitness center; the first 100 people who sign up and complete the run will receive a t-shirt. The charity fair will be held 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Bldg. 350 atrium.

Please contact your key worker or visit www.peakcfc.com for more CFC information.



CFC focuses on philanthropy

Commentary by **Connie J. Schlosberg**

21st Space Wing Project Management Division
The Combined Federal Campaign of the Pikes Peak Region kicks off its annual fundraising drive Sept. 21.

The 2009 campaign theme focuses on the iCan giving philosophy where every federal employee can choose to say iCan make a difference by giving through the CFC. The campaign continues through Nov. 6.

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Campaign contributions for 2008 exceeded \$273 million, with \$2.1

million coming from the Pikes Peak Region.

The iCan philosophy allows us to change our community, our nation and our world for the better. This is our chance to use our generosity to eradicate disease, illiteracy, hunger, poverty and homelessness. Any donated amount is significant, and here's proof that small contributions really do add up. For the 2009 campaign, if every person in the 21st Space Wing campaign, including tenant units, contributed just one hour of their pay per pay period, the 21st SW could raise more than \$1 million.

Soon volunteer key workers will be requesting our participation in joining the team of donors who are making a difference. Be a part of the solution and choose to donate to one or more of the many causes changing society for the better.

Contact your key worker or visit www.peakcfc.com for more CFC information.

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Volunteering for CFC has personal rewards

Commentary by **Connie J. Schlosberg**

21st Space Wing Project Management Division
PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.
— Giving back to the community and organizations that help people is what inspires Staff Sgt. Joshua Linville to volunteer as the unit project officer for the Combined Federal Campaign.

UPOs play a valuable role for the CFC ensuring all campaign milestones are met. Without their time and dedication, the CFC's mission would be difficult to execute and the charities may lose potential donors.

Sergeant Linville takes his time to speak with each member of the 21st Logistics Readiness Squadron to discuss the program. Any donation — even one dollar — can help these charities.

"I just asked and they gave," said Sergeant Linville, "It made my job easy."

During last year's campaign, Sergeant

Linville spoke at his commander's call relating stories of how the CFC assisted some of his coworkers. He said he believes having a supportive commander speak about the importance of giving to the CFC during the presentation helps increase participation and interest.

Volunteering for the CFC also has a personal reward for Sergeant Linville. When he was eight-years old, his mother was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis; five years afterward, she developed breast cancer. With her illnesses, she could not work to support his family. Charitable services helped his family pay the rent and put food on the table.

"I guess you could say that because of those charities, my life was 200 percent better," he said "They helped my mom get wigs and clothes when she was recovering from chemo. Life could have been far worse both economically and emotionally if those charities were not available."



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First Knight



Staff Sgt. Lee Dockery was selected for this week's First Knight award. This award is designed to recognize outstanding Airmen each week for the work they do every day.

Air Force photo

Name:
Staff Sgt. Lee Dockery

Duty title:
Space console operator

Unit:
213th Space Warning Squadron,
Clear Air Force Station, Alaska

Hometown:
Blanchard, Okla.

Time in Service:
7 years

Hobbies:
Hunting, fishing and electronics

Favorite Music:
Rock

Time assigned to Unit:
1 year

Last Good Book Read:
"The Life and Times of Nikola Tesla" by Mark Seifer

How has joining the Air Force impacted your life?
It has given me a career and an opportunity to get an education.

If you were Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force for one day what would you change?
"I would make all Professional Military Education courses from Airman Leadership School to the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy mandatory in residence for active duty, guard and reserve. You take away so many valuable

lessons from members in other career fields that you can apply to your own.

What do you like most about being an Airman?
A higher sense of purpose

What is your favorite thing about serving in the Air Force?
Almost everyone in this world works, but not everyone is part of the greatest airpower in the world. We provide safety and security for all the citizens of the U.S., and I feel a great sense of pride being a part of that.

Why selected: Sergeant Dockery has continually improved his monthly recurring training test scores, along with improving his performance on his monthly training rides. On his six month evaluation, he passed with a "Highly Qualified" rating, the highest anyone can receive. Sergeant Dockery is one class away from his Community College of the Air Force degree and, along with all this, has put many hours of work into his additional duty as communications security custodian. He's also played a crucial role in the unit receiving a satisfactory rating with zero findings on the recent command level communication security inspection. Sergeant Dockery also gives back to the community in his off time. He's participated in the "Cell Phone for Soldiers" program and volunteers for Habitat for Humanity in Fairbanks where he has helped build two homes for needy families. — 1st Lt. Erik J. Haugen, crew commander



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Tips for Choosing a Charity

by Connie J. Schlosberg
21st Space Wing Project Management Division

10/6/2008 - **PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** -- With the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) under way, you may be wondering which charities are worthy of your hard-earned dollars. The CFC offers many charities to choose from and deciding which ones to donate to can be daunting.

You should select the charity whose mission matters to you most. Give to groups whose work you are already familiar with and to groups you are confident will put your donation to good use.

You should still research the organization to verify it is the one you think it is. You may have confused the charity with another one of a similar name. Do not assume you know the organization and what it does. Read up on their mission and take a look at its financial records. You have a right to know how the organization is going to spend your donation. The bulk of donations should go to help the people and causes they claim to support; the CFC brochure states the administrative expenses at the end of the charity's listing.

Other thoughts to consider are to clarify your values and identify your preferences. Are you more concerned about the environment or supporting the arts? Does someone in your family have an illness that could benefit from one or more of these charities? Perhaps you would like to advocate for a law or educate the public about a cause.

You should also think about whether you want to support a charity that is local, national or even international. A lot of people prefer to support charities that serve their local community. Local charities can appear more concrete because you can see the work being accomplished and the benefits to your neighbors and community. Remember that small and new charities can use your help just as much as the larger more established ones. Make certain that the organization's goals are measurable and its achievements are recorded.

Sometimes volunteering for a charity will help you decide if it is the one you want to support. If you cannot get personally involved, try speaking to the charity's staff members and volunteers. Question them about the group you want to sponsor by asking them how committed they are to the organization and how efficient the organization is in helping support their cause. Once you align yourself to a charity whose issues you are most ardent about, you will be more inclined to be generous and involved with that organization.

http://www.peterson.af.mil/news/story_print.asp?id=123118449

Helping survivors learn to breathe again

By Connie J. Schlosberg

Funneling her energy between her job as chief of program control for FMA and volunteer work, Debbie Lombardi is living proof on how to give more and live more by devoting her time for the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS). TAPS provides a network of comfort and empathy for military families who lost loved ones in the line of duty. Their mission is to offer peer support and assist survivors through a wide variety of programs. They work side by side with military, veterans and government agencies to help families successfully deal with the sadness and problems that arise well after the tragedies happen.

For Debbie, this organization is a personal passion. In 1984, her husband died in a military plane crash. At that time, there was no assistance program to help her once the official causality case file was closed. Once the file was closed, all assistance ceased and she was required to move her family from military family housing to a location off base. Having spent years as a military officer's wife, she felt displaced with no one to turn to for answers until 1997 when TAPS founder Bonnie Carroll came to Peterson for a visit with Air Force Space Command. Through a special request from then 21st Space Wing Commander, Brigadier General Drennan, Debbie met with Bonnie who invited her to attend their annual National Military Survivor Seminar & Good Grief Camp for Young Survivors held during the Memorial Day weekend in Washington D.C.

Since its humble beginnings in 1994, TAPS gives grieving families and friends the strength they need to carry on after the loss of someone special. Support is provided to family and friends of military loved ones who have passed on. No one is turned away. Proceeds to the organization go towards numerous programs TAPS offers to survivors including transportation and lodging to attend the Memorial Day weekend seminar in Washington D.C. They also offer special programs for coping with suicide as well as programs for children. The Good Grief Camp for Young Survivors is held simultaneously with the National Military Survivor Seminar where arts and crafts activities are used to help children heal. Debbie's face lights up speaking about the families she has met "who have learned to breathe again" by releasing their emotions and finding solace visiting the Nation's Capitol and all that it stands for.

Inspired by the TAPS program, the Home Front Cares is a local non-profit organization that puts together a network of hope for surviving families. Their goal is to provide emergency financial assistance, goods and services to Colorado military families. Last year, the Home Front Cares organization held a seminar at Fort Carson for families to unite together to share experiences on the ultimate price of war. Their next event – For the Love of Our Troops IV Annual Dinner - will be held on 2 October at the Antler's Hilton Hotel. Featured guest speakers are retired Air Force General Richard B. Meyers and the Air Force Academy's Head Football Coach Troy Calhoun. Nothing will ever take away the heartache of losing a loved one, but

organizations like TAPS and the Home Front Cares are performing a great service of alleviating the pain and desolation for grieving families.

Please visit www.taps.org and www.thehomefrontcares.org for more information.