

## Why Save the CFC?

In 2024, the Combined Federal Campaign raised \$68 million for nearly 4,500 charities, with donations coming from more than 71,000 federal employees and members of the military. CFC donations support a broad range of charities, including:

- **Charities supporting veterans and members of the military:** 11 of the top 108 CFC charities in 2024. These included the Stephen Siller Foundation (\$741,112), Wounded Warriors Project (\$441,457), Fisher House Foundation (\$323,070), Disabled American Veterans Charitable Services Trust (\$303,642) and the USO (\$162,012).
- **Faith-Based Charities:** 15 of the top 108 charities. These include Samaritan's Purse (\$718,648), Catholic Relief Services (\$487,245), Zion Church (\$458,447), Salvation Army World Service Office (\$181,267) and Catholic Charities USA (\$167,391).
- **Charities Feeding the Hungry:** 16 of the top 108 charities. These include Capital Area Food Bank (\$699,083), World Central Kitchen (\$690,013), Feeding America (\$439,367), SOME - So Others Might Eat (\$426,578) and the Maryland Food Bank (\$231,859).
- **Charities Serving Local Communities:** 22 of the top charities. Most are in the DC area. In addition to local hunger charities (9 of the top 108), these include WETA (\$182,304), Catholic Charities of Arlington (\$158,456), Martha's Table (\$134,551), A Wider Circle (\$129,173) and House of Ruth (\$127,614).
- **Health and Medical Research Charities:** 23 of the top 108 charities. These include St Jude Children's Research Hospital (\$3,463,160), American Cancer Society (\$525,364), Shriners Hospitals (\$462,409), Alzheimer's Association (\$272,938) and American Heart Association (\$270,029).
- **Animal Welfare Charities:** six of the top 108 charities. These include American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (\$453,632), World Wildlife Fund (\$228,828), Best Friends Animal Society (\$111,853), Washington Humane Society (\$105,485), Humane Society of the U.S. (\$104,187) and Puppies Behind Bars (\$103,058).
- **Pro-Life Charities.** The largest is Pre-Born! (\$91,182), which supports pregnancy centers across the country. Fifteen of these pregnancy centers were part of the 2025 CFC, as were three Birthright charities, plus the Life Legal Defense Fund, Students for Life of America, and the California Right To Life Education Foundation.

### The CFC is a very effective way to raise money for charities

**The average CFC donation in 2024 was \$932.** This is because the CFC allows donors to have a little deducted from each paycheck, which is how nearly nine of 10 donors give. The average donation in the Mid-Atlantic CFC was even higher: \$1,248.

**Nearly all the cost to run the CFC is paid for by the charities themselves,** through application and listing fees and a percentage deducted from their donations.

**The CFC is in the process of lowering the CFC's costs.** Starting in 2017, the CFC began a process of modernizing how it collects and processes donations as well as how it processes applications and charity information. To do this, it created two new websites, a major undertaking. Now that those sites are functioning smoothly, the CFC's costs are going down. **Between 2016 and 2025, inflation-adjusted costs declined by 34.3%.**

**The CFC is making it easier for federal employees and service members to donate,** especially those who don't work at computers. This year it introduced two ways that people can give by using their smartphones.

**The CFC is also increasing the number of retirees who give through the CFC, up 9% in 2024.** Retirees gave 16% more in 2024 than in 2023. Their average donation is \$1,331. This is because retirees can have a little deducted from each retirement payment.

**The potential for retiree giving is huge:** there are more than 2.2 million federal employees and 2.6 million veterans who are receiving retirement payments.

### **Charities like being part of the CFC**

Not only does the CFC raise a lot of money for many charities, it also provides the names and contact information for many new donors. This allows the charities to build relationships with these donors.

The CFC doesn't require a lot of a charities' staff time after the application is done (and a full application is required only once every three years). And being part of the CFC is a way for charities to communicate their accountability.

**All this is why charities are willing to pay the cost to run and manage the CFC.** Charities understand that it costs money to raise money.

### **Donors like giving through the CFC**

The CFC vets each charity, making sure it meets basic accountability standards. The CFC website is an easy way for donors to learn about a broad range of legitimate charities. And donors can give to many charities with one donation, having a little deducted from each paycheck or retirement payment. Every year hundreds of employees and military personnel volunteer their time to encourage colleagues to give through the CFC.

### **Don't be a grinch!**

Since 1964, the CFC has raised more than **\$9 billion for charities.** During the past five years, it has saved the government more than \$400 million by enabling private donations to meet critical needs, like feeding the hungry and finding cures for dreaded diseases. The kind of private support for basic needs that the CFC generates is a bedrock conservative principle. **The CFC needs to be preserved and improved, not eliminated.**