



CFC Times

Issue Eight – Fall 2008

Lincoln/Lancaster County Combined Federal Campaign Newsletter

www.efclincn.org



Open Your Heart to Others!

**The 2008 Combined Federal Campaign will be starting October 13th
and will run for six weeks until November 14th.**

Contributing through the Combined Federal Campaign makes it easy to give to what matters to you. Whether you're interested in health charities, children, the environment, animals, or any of the other kinds of charities that participate in CFC, even giving just \$1.00 each month can go a long way to help those in need. And through CFC, you can contribute to charities all around the world or right here at home. You can choose how you want to *open your heart to others!*

OUR 2008 CAMPAIGN GOALS

The 2007 campaign was a huge success. 2008 will be another spectacular year. We will continue with our goal of 100% ASK with an increase in contributions.

There is nothing more powerful than to see someone benefit from help from an organization. Even the smallest contribution from you makes a difference.

I again challenge every federal employee in the Lincoln/Lancaster County area to make a difference. If you have never contributed, start with \$1 a payday or a one time donation. If you have always participated, I challenge you to increase your contribution by even a few cents. I have been very fortunate in my life and have not had to tap into services from the many organizations that are available, but I know that life is fragile and I could be next, or a family member or close friend.

Thank you in advance for your contribution and efforts. You will touch more lives than you could ever imagine.



Susan Lewis

2008 Lincoln/Lancaster CFC Campaign Chair

Asst District Manager
Social Security Administration
100 Centennial Mall N, RM 191
Lincoln NE 68508

UPCOMING CHARITY AWARENESS FAIRS

Don't forget, there are two upcoming opportunities to visit with representatives from charities participating in the Combined Federal Campaign!

At the Denney Federal Building:

Wednesday, October 15th from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

At the USCIC Building:

Thursday, October 16th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

If you turn in your pledge card at the Denney Federal Building fair (even with a \$0 amount), you will be entered in a drawing for a prize from local merchants. And, as usual, snacks will be provided at both fairs!

WHAT HAPPENS TO UNDESIGNATED FUNDS?

What happens to money given by employees who do not specify what charity should receive the funds? An excellent answer to this question is provided by Mary Aldrich-Knight, the Director of Finance and Administration at United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County and our campaign's financial director.

Undesignated funds are distributed in the same proportion as designated funds. For example, if Charity A received 10% of all total designations, then their percentage of the undesignated pledges would be 10%.

Thanks for the clear explanation, Mary!

CHECK OUT OUR LOCAL CFC WEBSITE!

The Lincoln and Lancaster County CFC Website now contains new success stories from those who have been helped by your CFC contributions. Please share these stories with your coworkers to let them know about the good work their CFC donations accomplish!

Are you looking for some new ideas for your agency's campaign this year? Click on "Keyworker Info" and then "Fun Ideas" to see the CFC Idea Book. This book is full of fun activities that will get your coworkers fired up about this year's campaign!

The website also contains CFC posters available for download and posting in your workplace.

Be sure to check the website regularly for additional information about the 2008 campaign. Please contact our CFC webmaster Allan Weber (allan_weber@nps.gov) with questions or comments. Check out our CFC website at <http://www.cfclincoln.org/>.

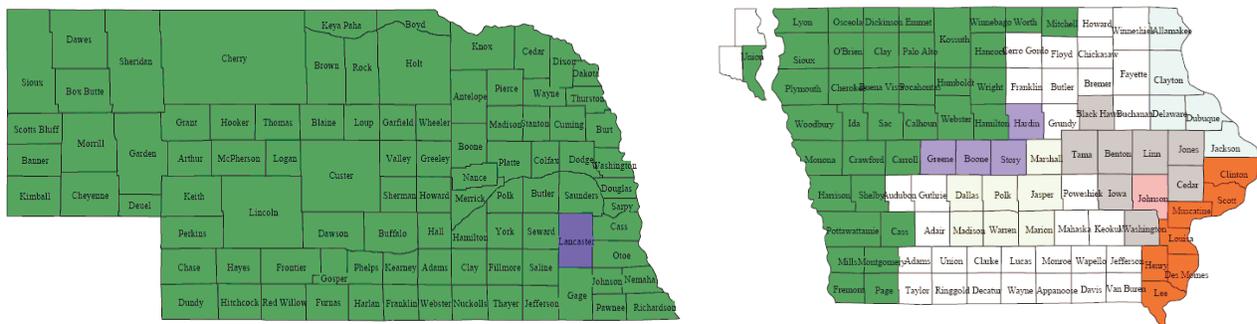
COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGNS IN NEBRASKA

Have you ever wondered how many different CFC campaign areas there are in Nebraska? Well the answer is – TWO!

The Lincoln and Lancaster County campaign area is shown in blue below and encompasses only our county. All federal employees who work in Lincoln and Lancaster County may participate in our campaign, regardless of where their supervisors are stationed. You should give to CFC through the local campaign covering the area in which you are duty stationed.

The rest of Nebraska, much of eastern Iowa and one county in South Dakota are covered by the Heart of the Midlands campaign which is run from Omaha for federal employees who work in those counties.

Because we are such a small campaign, we are able to keep our overhead costs of running the campaign very low (under 10%). We may be small in size, but thanks to you all we are mighty in our generosity! Our 2007 Lincoln and Lancaster County Campaign raised **\$218,475!** Lancaster County federal employees truly embody the spirit of giving. You can help make this trend continue with your contributions during the 2008 campaign. Thank you in advance for *Opening Your Heart to Others* and know that your contributions will make a difference!



	<p>Current Campaigns 2 Campaigns</p>
	<p># 0551 Lincoln & Lancaster County (Lancaster County)</p>
	<p># 0552 Heart of the Midlands (Adams, Antelope, Arthur, Banner, Blaine, Boone, Box Butte, Buffalo, Boyd, Brown, Burt, Butler, Cass, Cedar, Chase, Cherry, Cheyenne, Clay, Colfax, Cuming, Custer, Dakota, Dawes, Dawson, Deuel, Dixon, Dodge, Douglas, Dundy, Fillmore, Franklin, Fronteir, Furnas, Gage, Garden, Garfield, Gosper, Grant, Greely, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, Hooker, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Kearney, Keith, Keya Paha, Kimball, Knox, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Madison, McPherson, Merrick, Morrill, Nance, Nemaha, Nuckols, Otoe, Pawnes, Perkins, Phelps, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Red Willow, Richardson, Rock, Saline, Sarpy, Saunders, Scottsbluff, Seward, Sheridan, Sherman, Sioux, Stanton, Thayer, Thomas, Thurston, Valley, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, and York Counties, NE. Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattmie, and Shelby Counties, IA. Also, see Iowa and South Dakota maps.)</p>

Illustrations and information courtesy of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management <http://www.opm.gov/cfc/index.asp>.

IRS GUIDELINES FOR PAYROLL DEDUCTION CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHARITIES

Don't forget that your donation through CFC is tax deductible. Be sure to retain the pink copy of your pledge form for tax purposes!

The Internal Revenue Service changed the recordkeeping requirements for taxpayers claiming deductions for cash contributions to charities, including contributions made by payroll deductions. For calendar year taxpayers, the new rules apply to contributions made beginning in 2007. For federal workers, the notice specifically provides that a pledge card with the name of a Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) will meet the new requirements.

Starting in 2007, employees who give via payroll deduction will need:

- 1) A copy of their CFC pledge card to prove which charities got their money; and
- 2) Their year-end pay stub that shows the total amount which was withheld to claim the gift as a deduction on their taxes.

Employees should keep the pink or employee copy of their CFC pledge card when filing their taxes for 2007. Copies of the pledge card can be obtained from your Local Federal Coordinating Committee (LFCC).

It is incumbent upon the taxpayer to maintain proper documentation for ALL gifts. Thus, for any funds received after January 1 which are claimable in the 2007 tax year, they must have proper documentation. Their pay stub, in conjunction with their pledge card, will satisfy this requirement. The pledge card alone will not – as this does not prove the money was withheld from the paycheck.

The Pension Act of 2006 offers changes to the documentation required for an individual and the documentation they must maintain to prove gifts to non-profit organizations. Those who made cash gifts of \$250 or more to non-profit organizations in tax year 2007 should get tax letters from their designated charities acknowledging the gift. In this case, the tax letter is all that is required to be submitted for tax purposes. Non-profits are not required to acknowledge gifts under \$250. For those making charitable gifts under \$250, non-profit organizations are not required to send out tax letters, but taxpayers should be able to prove such a gift by cancelled check, receipt, etc. Many organizations often send thank-you letters to their donors regardless of the amount of the donation, but they are not required to do so.

Please understand the LFCC is posting this in an attempt to help donors understand the new requirements, but we **strongly** suggest that you consult with your tax advisor if you have any specific questions regarding the new IRS rules. The LFCC does not employ tax accountants or tax lawyers and therefore cannot be held responsible if some of this information is not accurate.

The above is summarized from IRS Issue Notice 2006-110, and can be viewed at http://www.irs.gov/irb/2006-51_IRB/ar12.html

YOUR 2008 CAMPAIGN OFFICERS

2008 Lincoln/Lancaster Campaign Chair:

Susan Lewis, Assistant District Manager for Social Security

2008 Local Coordinating Committee Officers:

Linda Kruger, Chair, NRCS-NSSC

Christy Funcke, Vice Chair, USPS

Evelyn Martin, Secretary, USCIS-NSC

UPCOMING LOCAL FEDERAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (LFCC) MEETINGS

Every federal agency in Lincoln or Lancaster County is invited to send a representative to the monthly LFCC meetings to help plan and run the annual Combined Federal Campaign in our area. The group meets at 8:00 am, the third Tuesday of the month at the United Way offices, 206 S. 13th St., Suite 100, Lincoln. All are welcome! Upcoming meetings will be held on October 21st and November 18th.

2008 CFC DATES TO REMEMBER

The 2008 Combined Federal Campaign will run from October 13, 2008, through November 14, 2008.

January 21, 2009 – CFC Finale Breakfast, V.A. Medical Center Auditorium, 600 South 70th Street (8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace giving campaign.

This newsletter is designed to share information about the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) with Federal employees in Lincoln and Lancaster County and is written by Federal employees serving on your Local Federal Coordinating Committee. We would love to hear what you think about your Combined Federal Campaign. We are especially interested in hearing from those of you whose lives may have been directly affected by the generosity of Federal employees contributing through CFC. Please let us know if you have a story to share! Comments and suggestions for the newsletter may be e-mailed to the newsletter coordinator at karin_roberts@nps.gov.