



CFC Times

Issue Nine – Winter 2009

Lincoln/Lancaster County
Combined Federal Campaign Newsletter

www.cfclincoln.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CAMPAIGN CHAIR

WOW!!, What a wonderful year. 2008 was phenomenal. The CFC in Lincoln and Lancaster County had 985 contributors, 33.9% participation, average gift of \$289.00, with an increase of \$66,238 (30.32%) from 2007.

It truly shows that we care about our community and the people who live here. We are so very fortunate to have the jobs we do in these economic times, and even though we are affected as well, you reached far to help those less fortunate. You opened your hearts to everyone.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.



Susan Lewis

2008 Lincoln/Lancaster LFCC
Campaign Chair
Asst District Manager
Social Security Administration
100 Centennial Mall N, RM 191
Lincoln NE 68508
866-563-9312 X 23001



Federal employees throughout Lincoln and Lancaster County were very generous with their contributions. The 2008 campaign total is an amazing:

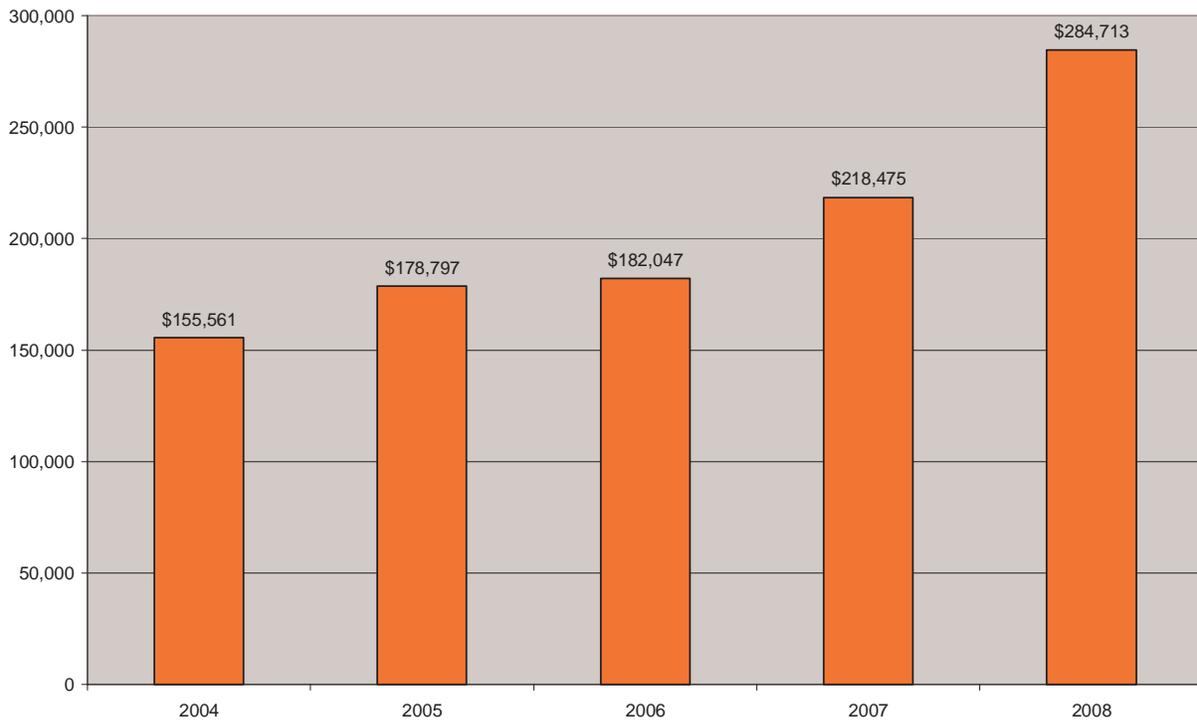
\$284,712.83

2008 CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

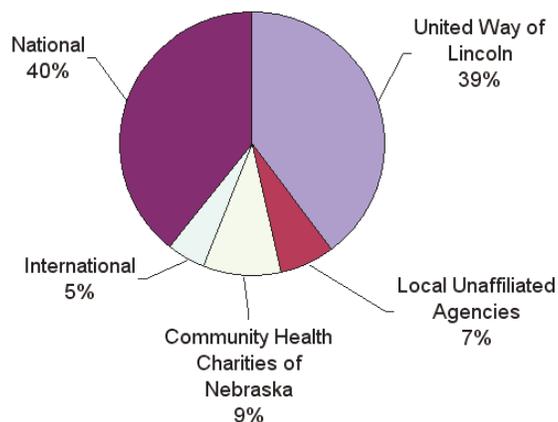
- 985 contributors
- 33.9% participation among all Lincoln and Lancaster County federal employees
- Average gift was \$289.05
- Our total of \$284,712.83 was an increase of over \$66,238 (30.32%) from 2007!!

A summary of our last five CFC totals for Lincoln and Lancaster County:

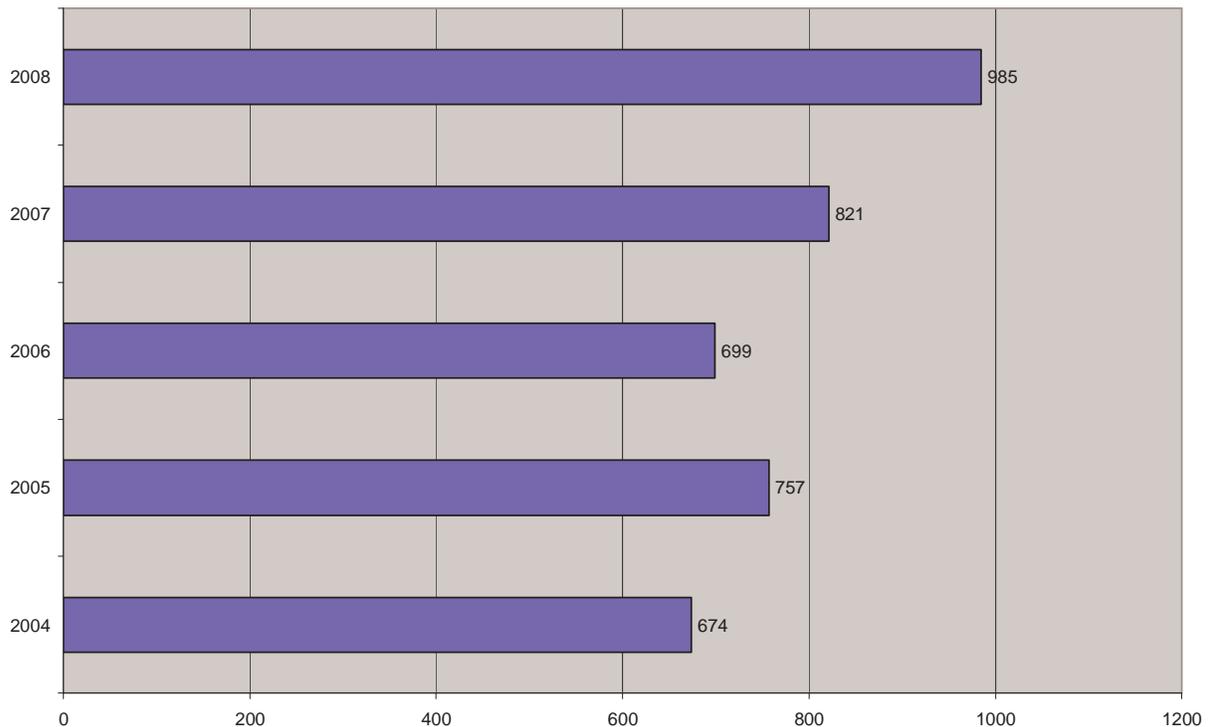
Lincoln & Lancaster County CFC 5-Year Campaign Comparison



Distribution of Funds During the 2008 Campaign:



Lincoln & Lancaster County CFC 5-Year Participation Comparison



Thank You for “Opening Your Heart to Others” and know that your contributions will make a difference!

CFC POSTERS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

The Lincoln and Lancaster County CFC Website now contains CFC posters available for download and posting in your workplace. Currently there are a couple posters highlighting the results of the 2008 campaign. Please feel free to download and use these posters in your agency to let your coworkers know about the good work their CFC donations accomplish!

In addition to the posters, you’ll find a variety of important CFC information including the results of our 2008 campaign and success stories from those who have been helped by your CFC contributions. Be sure to check the website regularly for additional information about the upcoming 2009 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/!](http://www.cfclincoln.org/)

CONGRATULATIONS TO SOME OUTSTANDING AGENCIES!

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the United States Postal Service (USPS) deserve special recognition for their outstanding participation in the 2008 Combined Federal Campaign. Both agencies had very large increases in the amount raised through the 2008 CFC. USCIS increased their contributions by \$30,918.41 over the previous year (a 47.68% increase from 2007) and the USPS increased their contributions by \$17,401.66 (a 36.23% increase from 2007)! Both agencies had incredible support from their agency directors and volunteers from within the agencies who helped get their employees fired up about the campaign and excited about giving to others. Together, USCIS and the USPS were instrumental in the total success of our entire campaign!

Two additional federal agencies had very large percentage dollar increases in the pledged amount from the previous year. The U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) increased their contributions from the previous year by 135.67% while the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airway Facilities/System Support Center increased their contributions by 300%. Way to go!

And that's not all! Many other agencies had significant increases in number of contributors, amount pledged, and percentage of increase over the previous year. You all deserve a huge THANK YOU for your participation and support for the 2008 campaign!!

IRS GUIDELINES FOR CFC PAYROLL DEDUCTION CONTRIBUTIONS

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/newsroom/article/0,,id=164630,00.html>

YOUR 2009 CAMPAIGN OFFICERS

2009 Lincoln/Lancaster Campaign Chair:

Susan Lewis, Assistant District Manager for Social Security

2009 Local Coordinating Committee Officers:

Christy Funcke, Chair, USPS

Evelyn Martin, Vice Chair, USCIS-NSC

Jess McCormick, Secretary, USGS

UPCOMING LOCAL FEDERAL 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 February 17, March 17, and April 21.

2009 CFC DATES TO REMEMBER

See our next issue of CFC Times for dates and information about the 2009 Combined Federal Campaign dates, CFC Kickoff and Keyworker Training, and CFC Finale Breakfast and Recognition Event!



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.