

Some military CFC charities harder to find

By Karen Jowers

Federal Times

If you're looking for a military-related charity for your Combined Federal Campaign donation this year, there are some new causes on the block that may not be easy to find.

"A lot of folks don't know who we are," said Barbara Lau, executive director of Comfort for America's Uniformed Services (CAUSE).

The group is new to the CFC national charities list this year, but missed the deadline for being included in the federation of Military, Veterans and Patriotic Service Organizations of America, Lau said. She and her husband, and three of his West Point classmates and their wives, began the effort in April 2003 to provide personal care items and clothing to wounded troops, and have expanded to recreation and entertainment.

Many local CFC campaigns have search devices on their Web sites that allow donors to search for charities using key words, programs, affiliations, or other parameters. If your local campaign doesn't have a search device, you can search for national and international charities online. About 350 new charities are on the national/international CFC list, including CAUSE.

That group's newest program involves \$2,500 specialized game carts — hospital carts configured with a television and game station, with a telescoping arm that can wind its way around IV lines and other wires around hospital beds, Lau said.

CAUSE has put three at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington and eight in the Veterans Affairs hospital in De-

troit, Lau said. CAUSE libraries at six medical facilities allow military patients to check out videos, games and gaming systems. A seventh is scheduled to open in January at Fort Riley, Kan. Information is available online about donating, money, recreation items, and volunteer time to each of these libraries and other CAUSE efforts.

CAUSE's CFC number is 33011. Another new military-related charity is Wounded EOD Warrior Foundation, CFC number 37190, which also is not part of the MVPSOA, although it is part of another CFC federation, Human Care Charities of America. The Wounded EOD Warrior Foundation provides grants to those who have been injured while removing unexploded military ordnance and terrorist devices.

Staff writer Tim Kauffman contributed to this report.

The Cincinnati Metro Area CFC would like to thank the following for their sponsorship of the 2009 Campaign:

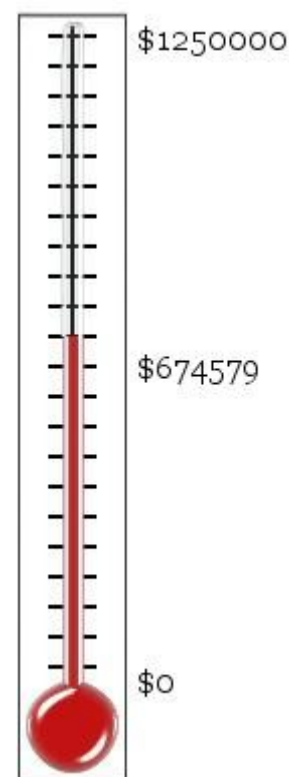
**Government Employee
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(GEICO)**

**Greater Cincinnati
Federal Executive Board**

Going for the Goal

With only a month left in this year's Campaign, we have achieved 54% of our goal with \$674,579.

Thank you!



CFC Testimonial: Organizations grant children's wishes

One CFC charity has as its mission to "grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy." This organization has enriched the lives of these children through its wish-granting work. Its mission reflects the life-changing impact that a wish experience has on children, families, referral sources, donors, sponsors and entire communities.

Several of the organization's constituents share their praise of the organization:

On behalf of my family, I would like it to be known how grateful we are for your caring, compassion and generosity. The last year and a half of our lives was filled with fear, sadness, anxiety and all of the stresses involved in battling cancer. It was nice to put all of this behind us for a week and enjoy a wonderful Disney vacation. The smiles on my sweet JoJo's face will live forever in my heart and soul."

- Mike, Amy, Joseph and family

"Giving our families something outside the realm of what we can provide to them at the hospital is an honor. Often we focus on helping them understand the medical and financial issues; it is easy to forget the importance of finding joy. Our friends at the Make-A-Wish Foundation help us achieve this. They work with the families and the children we serve to ensure the childhood is not set aside for the illness. What a wonderful gift to provide to the children our facility serves – this is why we have and will continue to refer our families to Make-A-Wish."

- Sharon McLain MSSA, LSW
Pediatric Hematology/
Oncology Social Worker

"Thank you so much for sending my family to the Bahamas. Atlantis was amazing for the whole family. The dolphins were soooo cool! They were my favorite."

- Cody, Wish Child

"The anticipation of the wish kept us going for a year. Your organization made an amazing wish come true and has provided many happy memories that we will cherish for the rest of our lives."

- Malika's Mom

"When we share a diagnosis with a family, all the challenges they will encounter are foremost on their minds. I hope to bring them so much more than just that diagnosis – a sense of control, a plan for moving forward, and a bit of joy which is wrapped up in the words "make a wish". I speak with our patients after their experience with this organization and am awed by how much joy they express to me. Their wishes bring them such comfort during a time of so many unknowns. I feel fortunate to share the magic of a wish with them."

- Dr. Mark Ranalli
Hematology/Oncology

"Thank you so much for making my wish come true. We all had a blast! Discovery Cove was beautiful. There was a coral reef, a lazy river and a ray pool. We hand fed the ray. We kissed and rode the dolphin by holding his fin...I had the best time of my life!

- Hannah, Wish Child

"It is SO cool these kids, who have been through so much, have one week to do whatever they want. It's their time away from the doctors and hospitals, and their time to be pampered and spoiled. This is an awesome organization."

- Myles' Mom

Need CFC information?

Locate a Coordinator
Get CFC materials
Find charity info
Provide comment

Contact the CFC Office to get all your CFC information. You can write, email, call, or FAX:

CFC
John Weld Peck Federal Building
550 Main Street, Ste. 1-116
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 684-2515
FAX: (513) 684-2103
cincycfc@gmail.com

New CFC charities help feds, families, service members

by **Tim Kauffman**

Federal Times

Among the nearly 350 national and international charities that have been added to the Combined Federal Campaign this year, more than a dozen focus on federal employees and their families. Many of the new charities offer support to military service members. Others provide assistance to federal law enforcement officers and employees in general. For a rundown of the new charities, including the CFC codes used for designating donations, consult *Federal Times* at www.federaltimes.com.

