# **Campaign Leadership Finale & Awards Ceremony Speech**

*These brief remarks are for use during a CFC Finale or Awards Ceremony to thank CFC campaign team members and participants. Please expand or localize where necessary.*

Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and honor for me to be here today at the 2021 Combined Federal Campaign [Finale & Awards Ceremony]. I am so excited to see so many faces of change – some of you are CFC veterans, and some of you are newcomers, but all of you embody heart of what it means to be a public servant, going beyond your service to join our caring community. We all work in different corners of [DEPARTMENT/AGENCY], and yet we can come together to support the causes that matter most to us.

To the changemakers who donated, pledged volunteer time, shared their story, and served in the campaign: Thank you. You each have shown your dedication to a cause bigger than yourself. I want to take a minute to thank [CAMPAIGN MANAGER] and [HIS/HER] amazing team. [*Name campaign team members and their roles.*] Thanks to them, and all of you, [DEPARTMENT/AGENCY] demonstrated we are a community of changemakers by raising a total of [$DOLLAR AMOUNT] – an average gift of [$DOLLAR AMOUNT]. That is incredible! AND – we had scores of federal employees commit to volunteering their invaluable time. This year, donors pledged [HOURS] volunteer hours. This is in addition to the extra $2.5 million federal employees pledged back in 2020 for COVID-19, and another $520,000 as part of the Winter Storm Special Solicitation last year.

Together, your efforts will bring help and hope to millions of people, as monetary and volunteer pledges go to support the missions of thousands of participating charities. Please give yourselves a round of applause!

Look around the room. Look at these faces – each of you is the face of change. We are federal employees. Members of the U.S. military. Retirees. Postal workers. Colleagues, friends, family and community members. Changemakers. Every year, we give to our favorite charities through the CFC and change the world together. And I’m proud to say we did it again this year.

You stepped up and made the choice to be a face of change this year, showing just how easy it is to effect lasting change. Through volunteer time and monetary gifts, we have seen you respond to urgent need and ensure others have what they need to get back on their feet. And what’s even more amazing is that we’ve been doing this for 60 years, ever since President Kennedy established the CFC. Federal employees and retirees all around the globe have used the campaign as an opportunity to support thousands of charities over the years, and it’s so inspiring to see that momentum and excitement for the campaign renew each year.

There is no telling what kind of change we can bring to the world if we keep giving to charities together, nor how far our gifts will go. That impact is invaluable, and immeasurable, but it is felt by countless beneficiaries in our communities, across the nation, and around the world. And that kind of progress and empowerment is priceless.

Here are a few examples of what our CFC contributions will do in the coming year:

* Your donation of $24 will fill a child’s backpack with school supplies, helping a new student feel ready to learn.
* Your donation of $75 will offset 1,000 pounds of carbon in the air.
* Your donation of $125 will vaccinate a dozen patients against the flu.

Again, these are just a few examples. Depending on your cause, the charity you supported, and the types of pledges you made, there are countless ways your gifts could have an impact. I hope each of you feels immense pride in your accomplishments and the positive differences you made with your donation through the CFC.

To all who will be serving a hot meal, attending a job training program, or planting seeds for a future crop to sow – your generosity means that someone out there cared enough to make a small sacrifice so that they could have a better future. And that knowledge, that feeling that someone else cares – that is the greatest gift of all. Thank you for being the best representative this year for our strong, caring community. As changemakers, we have shown dedication to making a difference, and together, we are the face of change.

On behalf of our CFC team, the participating charities, and those who will be supported through your generosity, thank you, from the bottom of my heart.