



CFC Supporter Story: The Impact of a Charity's Assistance

Anita M. Washington didn't lose her passion for the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) or charitable giving when she retired from the Department of Defense three years ago.

"I stay motivated and will continue to support these causes because I will never forget how much I appreciated the support we received during that period in our lives," Washington says, referring to the time when she and her family turned to a charity to help them through a difficult experience.

Washington is thankful that her family hasn't been in a position where they have needed charitable services again.

"However, it is comforting to know that they are there for me, my family or anyone if the need arises," she says.

Having worked with the CFC in a variety of roles over a period of more than 30 years, Washington knows that sharing her story can have an impact and hopefully inspire others.

"I found that telling my personal story allowed persons the opportunity to say that they actually knew someone who had used these services and how much it was appreciated," Washington says.

We talk to Washington to learn more about the two main causes she supports – children and hospitals – and what motivates her to continue her generosity into retirement.

Why are children and hospitals the two main causes you support?

As I look back 26 years, I see a worried mother (my daughter) concerned about leaving her 5-year-old daughter in a hospital approximately 45 miles away from home. We knew this was the best place for my granddaughter. We certainly wanted to stay at the hospital every possible moment with her. We felt that driving back and forth from the hospital to our home, sometimes twice a day, was too much driving for either of us.

My daughter contacted one of the organizations in CFC whose mission is to support families who have children in the hospital, and the rest is history. We were able to 'live' within walking distance of the hospital. What a blessing it was to have a home away from home until she recovered. We could not afford to have stayed in a hotel for almost a month.

My granddaughter recovered beautifully and is giving back by taking care of the sick as a registered nurse.

Why do you continue to support charities, and why would you encourage others to as well?

I am excited and honored as a former employee and a retiree to play a part in promoting these wonderful organizations. They are as effective today as they were approximately 30 years ago when I was introduced to CFC. My motto has always been: Since no one has a clue what the future holds for you or your loved ones, I strongly suggest that when asked, please give to the CFC.

What sort of impact do CFC donations have?

When I was assigned the position of keyworker for CFC, my training gave me a good understanding of the impact that donations have on services provided. One significant fact that I passed on to my audience was that these non-profit organizations try very hard to keep their overhead at a minimum. Keeping their overhead at a minimum and soliciting volunteers allow these charities to provide as much assistance as possible to persons that need their help.

Story by Tara Shubbuck

ANITA M. WASHINGTON
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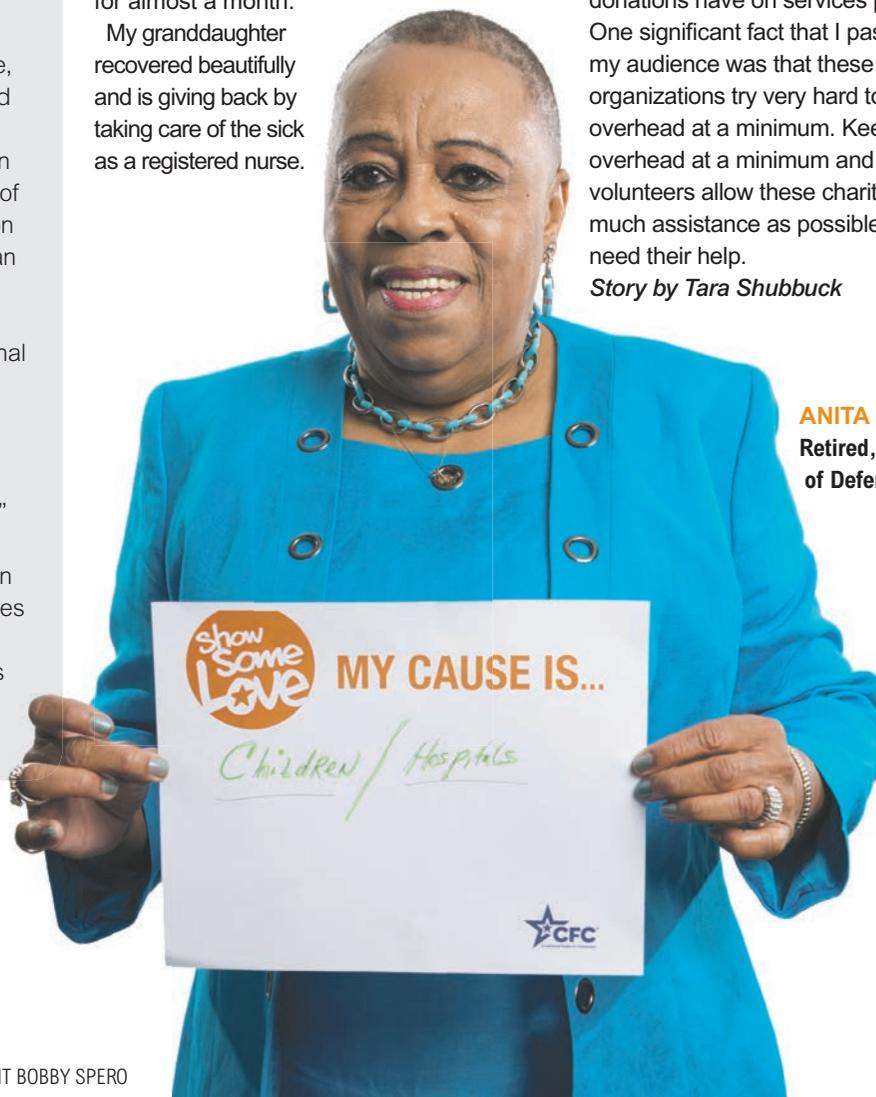


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1

GIVING PORTAL

Beginning with the 2017 campaign, contributors will be able to pledge online via the centralized giving portal. cfcnc.org

2

VOLUNTEERING

Donors are now allowed to pledge volunteer hours through the campaign to share time and talent with their favorite charities.

3

RETIREE GIVING

For the first time, Federal retirees will have the option to continue supporting their favorite charitable causes through the CFC via a deduction from their annuity.

SOURCE: CFCNCA.ORG