



## **CFC finishes with record \$470,000 total**

By Jeron Hayes

Despite the lagging economy, records were shattered as the Dahlgren/Fort A.P. Hill Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for 2009 finished at over \$470,000, a total that propelled the Potomac CFC to a final tally of more than \$1.1 million, also a record.

"I think United Way knows better than anyone how difficult it is to fundraise. That the campaign saw a 15 percent jump in a recessionary year, just the magnitude of that accomplishment is to be applauded," said Kathleen Smith, campaign coordinator for the Rappahannock United Way. "The connection between dollars raised and services to our community means we can do more, give more back. It's very exciting for anyone that works in philanthropy," said Smith, adding that RUW employees "on all levels are in awe of this accomplishment."

Nearly 4,000 donors across the region (Dahlgren, Fort A.P. Hill, Quantico and other federal agencies) contributed to the record-setting total. The donations ensure that hundreds of charitable organizations nationally and in local communities will receive support.

Smith has no doubt why such a feat could be accomplished. "The support of leadership was big.

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All three military bases have compassionate and concerned leaders. They all speak passionately about CFC and stay involved during the entire campaign," said Smith. She also spoke alongside of the employees she worked alongside during the campaign. "The commitment of the highly-motivated volunteers across the bases was amazing. Passion made it work," said Smith of the nearly 500 volunteers.

Smith had kind words for NSF Dahlgren. "I am always excited to go to Dahlgren. It is always positive interac-

tion. Dahlgren has an amazing spirit of community both on base and in their local community. Every employee there cares about the person sitting next to them. When that happens, our agency doesn't have to create awareness of caring and concern, it's already there," said Smith.

What will the CFC for 2010 hold?

"There is already a buzz, already enthusiasm about next year. Our volunteers are already kicking around ideas to make their campaign successful. I think the new year will be a good one!" said Smith.