

Day's Pay fund drive gets boost from Hanford employees



Hanford contractor employees have donated more than \$82,400 to the Day's Pay for the USA campaign. The effort is for the purchase of a new ladder truck for the New York City Fire Department and hazardous material response equipment for the regional Tri-Cities Fire Association.

"The response from the community has been overwhelming," said Richland resident Kelly Watson who, along with Margaret Hue of Kennewick, organized the Day's Pay effort. "This includes a large boost from employees at Hanford."

Battelle employees at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory raised a total of \$41,000 during a single day of fund-raising for Day's Pay.

Bechtel Hanford, Bechtel National, CH2M HILL Hanford and Eberline Services Hanford offered payroll deductions for employees wanting to contribute to the Day's Pay for the USA effort. Their employees contributed \$26,401.

Fluor Hanford's Day's Pay collection sites on Nov. 8 brought in \$15,000 toward the purchase of the fire truck. Fluor Hanford and CH2M HILL Hanford Group employees were allowed to cash in hours from their Personal Time Bank. The individual employee then had the option of how best to use the funds, including making donations to a Day's Pay. All payroll deductions from Fluor Hanford and CHG employees went to the American Red Cross.

Along with the payroll deductions and personal donations, additional funds came from the sale of Day's Pay T-shirts, polo shirts and ball caps sold at various Hanford locations.

"All donations will go toward the purchase of a truck and equipment," said Hue. "More than 90 percent will be given directly to the fire truck manufacturer, with the remainder staying for local emergency response equipment."

Day's Pay for USA T-shirts remain on sale at JC Penney, the Richland Chamber of Commerce, Richland Suzuki and Franklin County's District 3 Fire Department at 2108 Road 84 in Pasco. Banner Bank will accept donations until February.

"All in all, Hanford contractors and their employees really showed their compassion," said Watson. "I believe the strength of our community and our country lies in its citizens. That is certainly true in the Tri-Cities." ♦