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## **FEEA Celebrates 30 Years**

Lakewood, CO (February 3, 2016) – The Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA) celebrates 30 years of service to civilian federal and postal employees in 2016. Since its founding in the summer of 1986, FEEA has supported federal families through major natural and man-made disasters, helped feds weather the everyday financial emergencies that can stretch a budget to the breaking point, and made college more affordable with its merit-based scholarship program.

With over \$25 million in aid to nearly 30,000 families, FEEA has had a significant impact on the lives of feds across the country and around the world. No-interest loans, disaster grants, and scholarships have made it to feds in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and more than a dozen other countries and territories.

Natural disasters like floods, fires, and hurricanes are well represented among the grants, but the vast majority of aid recipients received <u>no-interest loans</u> to help make ends meet during a personal financial crisis. Marriage break-ups, LWOP for sick children, cars breaking down, furloughs, and other unexpected drains on their bank accounts bring feds to FEEA for the peace of mind that comes with paying past-due bills and getting back on firmer financial footing. <u>Merit scholarships</u> have helped feds going back to school as well as family members just starting down the college path. And our legacy programs for children who lost parents in the Oklahoma City bombing, at the Pentagon on 9/11, or in overseas terrorist attacks, have helped over 200 families face the future with a little less struggle and worry.

FEEA's Executive Director, Steve Bauer, who has been part of the organization since its founding, had this to say about 30 years of serving feds, "What has been our mission been over these three decades? Just helping folks. Helping the very people who keep America strong through their

important work for our country every day. We salute you federal employees and we look forward to continuing to serve you in the years to come."

FEEA could not meet its mission to help federal employees whenever and wherever they need it without the generous support of corporate sponsors like BlueCross BlueShield and GEICO, both of which have been with FEEA and feds from the very beginning. The millions of dollars provided by these two companies, along with a host of other current supporters, represents their ongoing commitment to the wellbeing of feds and their families.

FEEA is also indebted to the thousands of individual donors – federal employees, retirees, family members, concerned citizens – who recognize the value of our work and support it with their hard-earned dollars. Many employee associations, Unions, and affinity groups also sustain FEEA's work via contributions at both the national and local/chapter levels.

As we reflect on 30 years of service, FEEA offers its thanks to everyone who has made a donation, spread the word, volunteered, and otherwise supported our work. We look forward to another 30 years and more, helping the men and women who work for America every day.

FEEA is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) agency, primarily funded through federal employee contributions to FEEA CFC Pledge #11185 and donations to special relief funds. Since 1986, FEEA has provided more than \$13.6 million in scholarships to civilian federal employees and their dependents. The FEEA Emergency Assistance Program has provided more than \$11.5 million in financial assistance to federal families experiencing natural disasters such as floods, fires and hurricanes, and to those experiencing unforeseen personal emergencies such as illness or death in the family. FEEA also receives both monetary and in-kind support from corporate sponsors BlueCross/BlueShield Association, GEICO, Long Term Care Partners, Engility Corporation, GEBA, FedChoice, Federal News Radio, and others. For more information about FEEA, visit www.feea.org or call 303-933-7580 or 202-554-0007.

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