

Decision Committee Spotlight - Steve Donaldson



Since 1997, the Willie Lopez Emergency Assistance Fund has been offering a “measure of hope” to our colleagues facing difficult times. As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Fund, we want to give insight into how the Fund works and highlight those who make it possible.

The Willie Lopez Fund uses a Decision Committee to approve assistance for grant applicants based on the [Giving Guidelines](#) of the Fund. This group is made up of dozens of employees from across the company who generously volunteer their time to anonymously review applications and ensure that the proper assistance is being granted to best help those in need. We chatted with one member of the Decision Committee, Steve Donaldson, about his experience. Steve is a Senior Planner with the Merchandise team based in Fremont, CA. He’s worked for Tailored Brands for 33 years and has been a member of the Decision Committee for more than 15 years.

Why did you want to get involved with the Decision Committee, and what has kept you involved for so many years?

“Being asked to join was an honor. Initially it was an opportunity to help serve as a welfare ambassador, of sorts, helping our Tailored Brands family members in need. The byproduct here is something that has transcended the original “mission.” Much like other volunteer projects I’ve been involved in, hearing the stories serves as a constant reminder that even the smallest gesture can have a profound impact on others right here at home. The Fund is the ultimate testament to people being inherently good in a world where that isn’t always evident.”

You’ve reviewed hundreds of WLF applications. What takeaways do you have when you reflect on the difficult times that people face?

“I feel very fortunate to be with a company that actively supports its entire family regardless of position and tenure. We’re all on equal footing when it comes to our ability to help—and the possibility of being in need ourselves in the future. Difficult times discriminate against no one.”

You’re not only a Decision Committee member, you’re also an original donor and have been contributing to the Fund for 25 years. What motivates you to donate, and what would you say to those thinking about contributing to the Fund?

“I feel like my donation is a way to pay it forward. It’s a very simple way to express appreciation for our good fortune while helping our Tailored Brands family members in times of need. It’s an investment in our fellow coworkers—and who wouldn’t want to invest in their family?”

The Willie Lopez Fund is incredibly grateful to all our Decision Committee members for the impact that they make, and thankful for our thousands of donors who enable us to carry out our mission. To learn more about the Willie Lopez Fund, how to get assistance, or how you can help others, visit www.willielopezfund.org.