



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

June 10, 2015

Mr. David Graham  
Coto de Caza/Rancho Santa Margarita Rotary  
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

Dear David,

The Camp Pendleton Armed Services YMCA is deeply appreciative for your Rotary to partner with us for the seventh consecutive year supporting the "Families Left Behind" during the holidays. Your Rotary fills a huge need in supporting our most junior enlisted families with holiday hams and Commissary gift cards complementing the gifts they receive, making their holiday complete. The holiday season brings joy and cheer to many families, but for many of our families living in Southern California this time of the year brings stress from anxiety and uncertainty. With 25% of our junior enlisted families qualifying for food stamps, many times they must choose between the necessities of rent and other living expenses and give up the ability to provide joy to their children during the holidays. Together, we are the secret Santa providing toys, gifts, and food for their holiday meal. Our staff is fortunate to witness the families appreciation as well as some of your volunteers, but we would like to share with you one testimonial from a young Marine Corporal who is a single mom.

*Ariana wrote in her note, "I cried when I got home! Thank you to everyone who made it so special for us. I thought I was going to get one toy for my child, but ended up walking out with Christmas. Never in a million years I thought we would be able to receive so many toys, books, games, and even a bike for my little guy, which is the first bike my family has ever had!! We even received a ham and commissary gift card to help us celebrate the holiday with a Christmas dinner. Thank you all so very MUCH".*

This demonstrates the impact you have on our most vulnerable families. Personally, you have my highest appreciation and gratitude for partnering with the Armed Services YMCA helping those "Families Left Behind".

We would like to invite any of your Rotarians to participate in a unique program where we place two or more Marine students from the School of Infantry in local community homes for Thanksgiving Day. This is the Marines first holiday away from home so the experience for both the students and your families can only be described as **priceless**. To sign up for Home Hospitality, please contact our office quickly at 760-385-4921 as this is an extremely popular event and fills quickly.

Semper Fidelis,

G. Brown III

Executive Director



**ARMED SERVICES YMCA AT CAMP PENDLETON**

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