



Hello Fellow Marines & Sailors!

Although Christmas is over six-months away, it is never too early to start thinking about the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. This year, the Marine Corps celebrates its 75th year conducting Toys for Tots. Our two organizations look forward to supporting our Corps in its premier community outreach program again in 2022!

The Marine Corps League has a long history with Toys for Tots. As early as the 1950's, the League has supported this amazing effort to bring the joy of Christmas to less fortunate families. In 1996, this support was formalized as Detachments were approved to conduct Toys of Tots Campaigns in communities that did not have a Reserve Unit. From 56 Detachments in 1996, the number of local campaigns led by the Marine Corps League has increased dramatically. This past year, Detachments led 260 of the 832 local campaigns and collected over 3.5 million toys and distributed over 4.7 million toys to approximately 1.3 million children. Many more Detachments directly supported other Marine Corps Reserve Units and Local Community Organization (LCO) campaigns.

We would like to express our gratitude and heartfelt thanks to each one of you who volunteered to support Toys for Tots in 2021. Last year was an unprecedented year with over 8.7 million children receiving almost 22.5 million toys, books, and games. You have much to be proud of! Although 2021 was a great success, we know the need will still be there for almost 15-million children who live at or below the poverty level across the Nation. Your Corps continues to need the League's help! If you are part of a Detachment that is in an area that already has a local Toys for Tots campaign, reach out to them as ask how you can help. If you are in an area that does not have a Toys for Tots local campaign, we ask that one of your members apply to be a Toys for Tots Local Community Organization (LCO). The application can be found online here: <https://www.toysfortots.org/coordinators-corner/application-start.aspx>. To determine if your area has a local campaign or not, please visit <https://www.toysfortots.org/campaigns>.

The Marine Corps League is critical to the Toys for Tots mission. Literally millions of children would not have experienced the joy of Christmas were it not for your efforts. Your willingness to continue to make a difference for our Corps and our Nation's less fortunate children lends credence to the expression "once a Marine always a Marine". The Marine Corps is indeed blessed to have the Marine Corps League as an integral part of the Toys for Tots team!

Semper Fidelis, Marines!

Johnny Baker
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