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MCCS and Sodexo partner to improve youth sports

HQMC (MR) Quantico, VA – On Friday, April 24, 2009, officials from Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS) and Sodexo Government Services met to kick off a year-long youth sports sponsorship program.

Timothy R. Larsen, Director Personal and Family Readiness Division (MajGen USMC Ret.), and Terrill Wicks, Section Head Children, Youth and Teen Program, accepted a commercial sponsorship check for \$61,500 from Greg Verone, Sodexo's President of Government Services, and David Bennett, Senior Vice President for Defense East.

“Sodexo has a wealth of expertise in health and wellness which is an integral part of our corporate citizenship commitments,” said Verone. “We are honored to sponsor this project because we have a strong commitment to help improve the quality of life for the families of those who serve our nation.”

Under the sponsorship agreement, the money will be used to improve youth sports activities at installations world-wide. Sodexo has also agreed to provide an end of season pizza party for sports participants at 11 installations in the continental United States. Sodexo has been involved with the Marine Corps Marathon's Healthy Kids Fun Run since 2004, but this is their first sponsorship that will touch military children at the installation level.

“It was only fitting that this year long sponsorship, which will benefit children across the Marine Corps, start in April, the Month of the Military Child,” said Wicks. “This 23rd annual celebration honors the “young” heroes of the military, today’s military children who make significant sacrifices, yet proudly support their parents.”

The MCCA Youth Sports program provides year round activities such as football, soccer, baseball, and basketball for boys and girls ages 6 – 18 years old. These programs help youth and teens achieve and maintain fitness, acquire a broad range of physical skills, develop a sense of teamwork, cooperation and fairness that lead to healthy, active lifestyles.

For more information about youth sports or other activities contact your installation Childcare Resource and Referral Office. For more information about the MCCA corporate sponsorship program please contact the Sponsorship Coordinator at (703) 784-3894 or email: mccasponsorship@usmc-mcca.org .