



September 2, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am proud to bring to your attention the outstanding community support efforts that Yellow Ribbon America ("YRA") has provided to California's and America's military and their families over the past eight years. The 2004 Operation Christmas for Our Troops & Their Families statewide Christmas support drive was the first effort that the California Republican Party partnered with YRA, and I was personally impressed with the organization and the heartfelt support of the drive from our fellow Californians. Their efforts were coordinated with the California Legislature and State Capitol, and since then, over the last 8 years with the help of hundreds of thousands of our fellow Americans they have collected over 500,000 donated items such as toys, bicycles, gift cards; DVD's, clothes, calling cards, Christmas cards, food and care packages for America's military families and their loved ones deployed over seas, food for various Unit Christmas parties as well as financial donations for military families in need and for many of the military's family readiness programs in our National Guard, Reserve and Active Duty military.

YRA's strength is not limited to seasonal efforts. On the contrary, its outreach programs are continually in action, benefiting deployed members and families as well as our returning veterans and their families.

One of the key and unique strengths of YRA is its ability to organize community members to support the deployed and returning military member's and their families in their own community. YRA coordinates with local cities, church and community groups, area businesses, and even residents to provide assistance. Whether it is an issue of emergency assistance, or a fundraiser for a "Welcome Home" celebration or deployment event, YRA's Community Program's continues to address the many crucial needs of our military personnel and their families after 10 years of war.

Again, I am extremely proud of the efforts of the Yellow Ribbon America Campaign that continue to directly support to not only California's military and their families but America's as the campaign continues to grow. I would encourage you to take the opportunity to work with and join the Yellow Ribbon America Campaign for the benefit of our military servicemen and servicewomen and families during this crucial time in America's history.

Tom Del Beccaro  
Chairman, California Republican Party