

Our Military Kids 2006 Program Services Update

Highlights of 2006

**286% increase in contributions
1350% increase in grants awarded**

2006 was a year of growth for the Our Military Kids program with 824 grants awarded with \$291,000 expended on grants. This compares to 60 awards granted in 2005 with a total award value of \$18,085. As of December 31st, OMK provided grants in 46 states and DC and all branches of the armed forces.

Not only was OMK able to provide grants to hundreds of children, but was also able to provide some 'extras' for the families. This included 20 tickets to the Easter Egg Roll at the White House, 50 tickets to the June T-ball game on the White House Lawn, 90 tickets to the Wizards games (including opportunity for 5 children to be in the "High Five Club") and 130 tickets to the Capitals. Tickets to these sporting events were donated by USAA and General Dynamics.

OMK was featured in a number of media outlets including an article in GX magazine; a segment of the Pentagon Channel's video "*From the Heart*"; an Air Force video highlighting two OMK families; and twice named the "Team Member of the Week" on the Pentagon's "*America Supports You*" website.

Awards and recognition included being named by the White House as an outstanding grassroots organization helping military families; adopted by the Reserve Officers Association League and the American Legion Auxiliary; winner of a Newman's Own Award; recognized by a joint resolution by the Virginia General Assembly; and \$46,500 grant from the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation for production and enhancement of marketing materials.

Our Military Kids published two editions of *The Briefing*, its newsletter, in the months of May and August.