

PRESS RELEASE

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ATTENTION: HIGH-RESOLUTION PHOTOS AVAILABLE



Andrews Air Force Base Joint Service veterans celebrated Veterans Day with homeless children

WASHINGTON, DC: Bright Beginnings, Inc. welcomed the Joint Base Andrews B.A.S.E. 5/6 volunteers on Thursday, November 10, 2011 to celebrate Veterans Day by spending quality time with some special children. Service men and women read to homeless children, chaperoned play time and assisted teachers in many other ways in their classrooms.

“Bright Beginnings was so pleased to welcome our service men and women to meet some little friends who represent all the reasons they joined the military in the first place,” says Executive Director Dr. Betty Jo Gaines. “We salute them for taking the time to visit our children.”

“All the men and women who served before us, both living and not, paved the way for us,” says TSgt Brandon E. Ferris, who organized the joint services volunteer group from Andrews Air Force Base. “What better way to honor their legacy than with service to our community. By volunteering in remembrance, we pay homage to those who came before us and set an example for those who follow in our footsteps.”

Bright Beginnings, which has been served more than 2,100 homeless children and their families during the last 20 years, is a nationally-accredited child and family development center for homeless infants, toddlers and preschoolers and their families. Holistic education and therapeutic services positively impact school readiness and prepare homeless children for kindergarten. Bright Beginnings’ family-stabilizing services create a more stable environment for homeless children and get their parents back on their feet.

Joint Base Andrews Building Andrews Shaping Excellence (B.A.S.E.) 5/6 is a professional organization comprised of junior non-commissioned officers (NCOs) from all branches of the Armed Forces stationed on Andrews Air Force Base. Their mission is to build more effective NCOs through professional development, community service and creating a peer-driven network to enhance the overall impact these NCOs have on their subordinates, the community and their branch of service.

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