

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1000 Defense Pentagon Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Uniformed Service Members and Department of Defense Civilians Serving Overseas:

Each fall, we have the opportunity to extend our service to the Nation and the world by making a contribution to the Department of Defense Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas (CFC-O). For more than 50 years, the CFC has provided critical funding for many worthy charities, including those that benefit our own military communities.

Many of us see firsthand the difficulties and hardships of family members and friends as they deploy, face economic hardships, or struggle with illness. The CFC-O offers an effective and efficient way to help others. In 2011, \$14.2 million was pledged to help those in need. Your contributions support more than 2,500 national and international charities, as well as Family Support and Youth Programs, which directly support quality of life programs in overseas military communities.

If you have never participated in the campaign, please join us. If you have given in the past, I thank you for your support and invite you to give generously again this year. Choose charities that you feel passionate about and know that through your generous contributions, we will continue an unprecedented tradition of caring and offer hope and help to those who desperately need it.

Sincerely,

Leon E. Panetta