Halsey Sailors give thanks by giving back

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The Sailors of USS Halsey (DDG 97) spent the month of November helping those in need, providing food baskets and conducting toy drives, sponsoring fun runs and volunteering their time.

On Nov. 22, Halsey delivered about 300 pounds of food and Thanksgiving supplies to the YMCA Food Basket Drive, tripling their original goal of 100 pounds. The YMCA Food Basket Drive provides food for those servicemen and women who cannot support themselves or their families on such occasions.

The purpose of the food drive is to remove the strain that would have otherwise been placed on the families at a time that is meant for thanks, reflection and sharing.

In addition, Halsey Sailors, led by Logistics Specialist 1st Class Kristian Fabian, volunteered for the Lighthouse Out-reach "Feed the Homeless Project" the evening prior to Thanksgiving.

Ship's Serviceman 3rd Class Olyen Scott said they volunteered to "give back to those who can't support themselves."

On the lighter side, many across the nation and Navy have been making a mark in November with an increased growth in facial hair as a symbol of awareness of men's health issues.

On Nov. 23, nearly 20 members of the Halsey family gathered on Ford Island. They sported genuine and artificial mustaches in the spirit of Mustache Movember and participated in a 5K run for men's health and cancer awareness.

"It was fun, really fun. I was running with my child in a stroller," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Devin Schefano, The organizers, the Surface Navy Association, raised \$2,500 for the American Cancer Society.

In the coming weeks, Halsey's Coalition of Sailors against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) will be teaming up with the Shriners' Hospital Holiday Drive to benefit children who are suffering from incurable, fatal or debilitating diseases and conditions. This effort to donate children's toys, books, and activities will be led by the current president of CSADD, Damage Controlman 2nd Class Leauwandeau Clarke.