

Veteran-Owned Nonprofit Brings Holiday Cheer: Toys for Tots Campaign

How Local Nonprofit Is Making a Difference this Season



[BriefingWire.com](https://www.briefingwire.com), 12/03/2025 - Lorton, Virginia, – My Veteran's Arm (MVA), Inc., partners with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign to bring holiday cheer to many children.

As the holiday season approaches, the spirit of giving is alive and well thanks to the dedication of local nonprofits. Among the most heartwarming initiatives is the annual Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign, which aims to bring joy to children in need through the gift of new toys. This renowned program is simple, yet impactful. Its mission is to collect new, unwrapped toys and distribute them to less fortunate children during the holiday season. For decades, this program has relied on the generosity of local communities and nonprofits to make their vision a reality.

Nonprofit organizations play a crucial role in supporting Toys for Tots. By organizing toy drives, rallying volunteers, and partnering with businesses, these nonprofits help to maximize the reach of the campaign. Their efforts not only provide toys but also create a sense of hope and belonging for families facing financial hardships.

“My Veteran’s Arm, Inc.,” founded by Dr. Mary M. Gillam, a retired Air Force Colonel and former member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) Corps at the Pentagon is one of the nonprofits stepping forward to help. With a heart of compassion and a willingness to serve, MVA recently delivered toys to the Navy Federal Credit Union, the National Church of God, and to Mission Barbecue (a veteran owned chain of restaurants). Each of these organizations hosted individual toy drives supporting the Toys for Tots campaign.

When asked why she wanted to bless these children for the holidays, Dr. Gillam replied, “My siblings and I grew up relying on government assistance to provide toys for us during the holidays. Although our grandmother was blind, she did the best she could to provide for us. With the assistance of outside help, we were blessed with a wonderful Christmas. Therefore, as the founder of MVA, I want to ensure that children can experience the joy of the holiday season regardless of their circumstances.”

With an initial board of four dedicated members, MVA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization providing veterans and their families with resources, information, training, and development services that contribute to improving the lives of those who served. Through various food donation channels, the nonprofit supports veterans facing food insecurities.

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<https://www.myveteransarm.org>