



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**“Freedom Bells” Raises Over \$159,000 for Local Military Families**  
*Armed Forces Families Foundation Partners with Taco Bell in Annual Fundraiser*

In November of 2015, the Armed Forces Families Foundation (AFFF) partnered with local Taco Bell restaurants to raise over \$159,000 via the “Freedom Bells” fundraiser. 100% of every dollar donated will be used to benefit the families of our local military service men and women.

During the three week fundraiser, participating Taco Bell restaurants invited guests to donate one dollar or more to the AFFF; in return donors received a coupon good for a Free Beef Taco. Nearly 200 franchise-owned Taco Bell locations across the Southeast participated in the hugely successful drive.

The annual event continues to draw strong support from both community members as well as Taco Bell staff due, in part, to the fact that every dollar raised locally will remain within the respective community. This allows every fundraiser participant the ability to see results and the positive impact at a local level.

The non-profit is committed to funding multiple projects in the coming year primarily via capital investment in infrastructure projects that can be enjoyed by our military service men and women along with their families. Some recently completed projects from a prior year of fundraising efforts include:

- Playground – Lake Wonderwood Trail Project at Mayport Naval Station, FL
- USO Kitchen Remodel at NAS Pensacola, FL
- New USO Tampa Bay Day Room at the James A. Haley VA Hospital, Tampa, FL

“It’s truly awe-inspiring to see the level of generosity shown by our local communities despite difficult economic times,” said Founder and Managing Director of the AFFF, Nick Peters. Additionally, Peters expressed pride in his team of strictly volunteers that have worked hard to grow the fundraiser each year since its inception in 2008. “By working together, we have been able to help countless military families with projects that will benefit them for years to come,” said Peters.

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The Armed Forces Families Foundation (AFFF), in conjunction with participating Taco Bell restaurants are proud Supporters of America's Armed Forces and their families. The ARMED FORCES FAMILIES FOUNDATION with its Taco Bell partners have raised over ONE MILLION DOLLARS. 100% of every dollar raised goes toward projects to help those who protect our Freedom. For more information, please visit <http://www.armedforcesfamilies.org/>

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