

United Way  
of the Chattahoochee Valley



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DATE: October 24, 2006  
FROM: Lisa Deason, Director of Marketing/Communications

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### SOLDIERS TO GET ADOPTED FOR THE HOLIDAY

United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley and Tri-Community Combined  
Federal Campaign, team up to provide “Holiday for a Soldier.”

Columbus, GA – October 24, 2006 – Colin and Beth Martin shared last Christmas with four soldiers from the Fort Benning Basic Combat Training Brigade. “There are between 30 and 50 soldiers that don’t go home during the two-week Exodus program. Although Fort Benning has numerous activities planned for those that stay behind, Christmas day, when most businesses are closed, would be spent in the barracks and the mess hall,” said Mr. Martin, a former military member and member of the United Way board of directors. The Martins enjoyed their guests and decided to bring the idea to United Way in hopes of encouraging others to host soldiers during the holiday season. “We were so excited about the idea,” said Cindy Cain, director of the Tri-Community Combined Federal Campaign. “I cannot think of more deserving or honorable guests to have at the dinner table, than these brave young soldiers,” said Mrs. Cain, who, along with her husband, hosted soldiers on Christmas day when he was on active duty.

To apply to be a host family for “Holiday for a Soldier” please call 706-327-3255.

Facts about Holiday for a Soldier:

- Will be held on Christmas Day.
- Host families are to provide transportation from Fort Benning to their home and back.
- Pick-up on time is no earlier than 10:00 a.m.
- Return time is no later than 8:00 p.m.
- Families are asked to accept two or more soldiers.

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