Dear Caring Friend,

What would you do if I told you that every day 2,660 children are born into poverty in the United States?

What if I told you that a simple gift of $15, $25, $35 or even $50 could make a real difference in the lives of these children?

It really is that simple, and that's why I am writing to you today, when Christmas still seems a long way off.

Because we begin raising money early in the year, we're able to buy toys and books in bulk, taking advantage of off season prices by buying toys in the spring and summer.

These discounts mean that for every $1 you give, the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is able to purchase $3 worth of toys!

That's almost as magical as the combination of Marines, Christmas, children and hope!

Our mission is clear and unwavering and has been for the last 57 years: to bring the joy of Christmas to needy children.

You make that happen, with every dollar you give.

There are an estimated 15 million children living in poverty in our great nation today. That is a staggering figure!

That's why writing a check today isn't just making a donation – it's making an investment in what I believe is the future of our great nation, our children.

In 2003, Toys for Tots distributed 15 million toys to 6.5 million children. In 2004, those numbers grew to 19 million toys to 7.5 million children. Imagine what we could do, together, if every one of us gave just $15. Or $25. Or even $50. Imagine how those numbers would grow and grow, until *every* needy boy and girl is reached.

And you can actually witness the hope your gift brings with your own eyes. All you have to do is look around within your

(over, please)

community ... every time you see a friend, a police officer, a Marine, or a neighbor hand a child a toy, you see hope happen.

You see <u>one simple gesture</u> can make a child's Christmas turn into something special, something a child will remember for the rest of his or her life. I don't know who it touches more – the children or us!

So as you decide how much to send in along with your reply today, I'd like to leave you with this thought: *"It's not the toy;* <u>*it's what the toy does.*</u>*"*
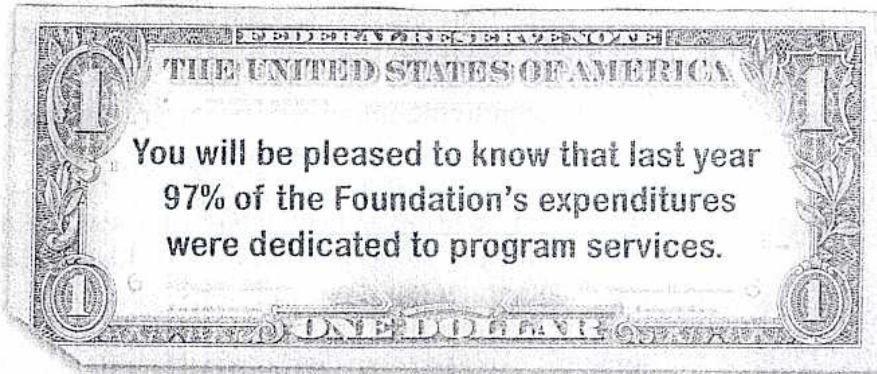
Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Gratefully,

Bill Grein

William J. Grein
Major, USMC (Ret.)
Vice President
Marine Toys for Tots Foundation

P.S. The enclosed gift is a small token of my gratitude for your past support. I hope you will continue to support our nation's neediest children. Your gift today will help ensure that no child ever has to ask on Christmas morning, *"Did Santa leave anything under the tree for me?"* Thank *you again for your compassion for our nation's children!*

There is power behind caring ... Toys for Tots!

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

You will be pleased to know that last year 97% of the Foundation's expenditures were dedicated to program services.

ONE DOLLAR

Reader's Digest named the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation the *"Best Children's Charity"*

A summary of the registration and financial documents filed by this organization can be obtained by contacting: in <u>Maryland</u>, for the cost of copies and postage, the Secretary of State, Charitable Division, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401; IN <u>FLORIDA</u>, THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE, 1-800-435-7352, License number SC-01981; in <u>Mississippi</u>, by calling the Secretary of State's office at 1-888-236-6167; IN <u>NEW JERSEY</u>, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY CALLING 973-504-6215; IN <u>NEW YORK</u>, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, CHARITIES BUREAU, 120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10271; in <u>NORTH CAROLINA</u>, FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND A COPY OF ITS LICENSE ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE SOLICITATION LICENSING BRANCH AT 919-807-2214; IN <u>PENNSYLVANIA</u>, DEPARTMENT OF STATE BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN PENNSYLVANIA,1-800-732-0999; in <u>Virginia</u>, State Division of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218; in <u>Washington</u>, residents can call the Secretary of State toll-free within the state, 1- 800-332-4483; IN <u>WEST VIRGINIA</u>, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, STATE CAPITOL, CHARLESTON, WV 25305; in <u>Arizona</u> by calling toll-free 800-458-5842; or by writing to Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, Marine Corps Base, P.O. Box 1947, Quantico, VA 22134.Our license number in <u>Michigan</u> is MICS No. 10716. Registration with any of the above government agencies does not imply endorsement by the state.