The Sullivans Elementary School students walk for Haiti relief

Story and photo by MC3 Andrew Smith,
Navy Public Affairs Support Element Japan

Students from The Sullivans Elementary School at Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) held a walk-a-thon to raise money for the Haiti relief fund May 1.

Students received two-dollar donation pledges for every lap they walked around Berkey Field.

"We had a great turnout, especially with the younger kids, preschool and kindergarten age," said Audrey Richartson-Murphy, a counselor at the school. "It's important for them to see the adults come and volunteer their time because as time moves on, they will become adults and they will have the responsibility of stepping up to the plate to do the same kind of thing."

Close to 40 students attended the walk-a-thon, most bringing their parents or siblings along to keep them company and share the spring weather.

"This is a great opportunity to provide assistance to the people of Haiti," said Lt. Cmdr. Chad Roe who joined his son at the event. "I hope this fundraiser can teach my son a little about how important it is to help others."

The school's goal was to raise $500 in donations, a target the students reached by day's end.

The Continuous School Improvement (CSI) Plan, a youth group consisting of students from the school, helped plan and prepare for the event.

"I think it's wonderful that the kids are learning about charities, helping others and just going out for a good cause," said Tracey Pollidor, the CSI faculty leader.

Although thousands of miles away from the earthquake-stricken country, students like Cora Asuncion understand the devastation and felt the need to help.

"It feels really good to help people and support them after what happened in Haiti," Asuncion said. "It is good to help people around the world that need it."

The Port-au-Prince region and surrounding areas in Haiti was struck by a catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake Jan. 12, since then, the United States and other nations organized a massive relief effort involving the U.S. Navy.

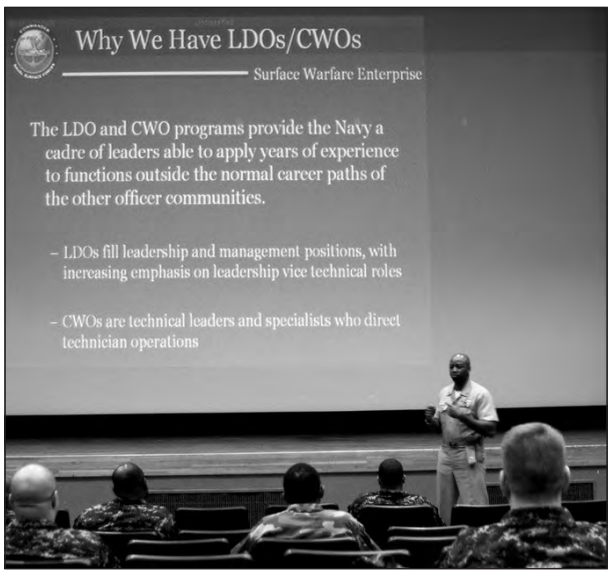
The International Red Cross estimates that three million people were affected by the earthquake.

Students from Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka The Sullivans Elementary School are joined by their parents as they participate in a walk-a-thon to raise money for Haiti relief May 1. The school's goal was to raise $500 in donations, a target the students reached by day's end.

Detailers enhance Sailors' career path opportunities during visit

Story and photo by MC2 Byron C. Linder,
Navy Public Affairs Support Element Japan

Detailers from Naval Personnel Command conducted a brief at Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) April 28, working to enhance the opportunities for Sailors' career paths through the Limited Duty Officer (LDO) and Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) programs.



Lt. Robert Trammell, chief warrant officer (CWO) and limited duty officer (LDO) detailer from Navy Personnel Command, speaks to attendees of a LDO and CWO applicants brief at Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka April 28.

More than 50 attendees from commands around the Yokosuka area, ranging in rank from E-6 to O-3, attended the applicant brief at Benny Decker Theater. The brief, conducted by LDO/CWO Detailer, Lt. Robert Trammell, covered a myriad of topics for Sailors to consider when applying for the program.

"The brief is targeted for those who want to be LDOs and CWOs," said Trammell. "We put out what an LDO and CWO is, the expectations of the Navy and what the individual needs to look for when applying."

For Sailors who have previously applied and were looking for tips on being selected for LDO or CWO in the future, Trammell explained the benefit of being stationed in the forward-deployed naval forces (FDNF).

"If those who applied and have been applying weren't selected, that shouldn't be discouraging," Trammell said. "Everyone knows the FDNF operational tempo is higher than anywhere else and we like to use that demand. The opportunity is just as good as someone stateside, if not better."

Logistics Specialist 1st Class (AW/SW) Terrence Dockery, who attended the brief, explained the importance of learning as much as possible for the application process.

"I'm interested in the LDO career path, so I came to find out what extra knowledge I could get and put on my application to be competitive," said Dockery. "Most of this I didn't know about, so it was very informative. The quota was pretty low from the selections last year for Supply Corps, but I'm not going to let that discourage me. If you don't try, you don't know."

Trammell emphasized the important role LDOs and CWOs play in actively working and providing guidance in the Navy.

"There's a strong demand in the officer ranks for LDOs and CWOs in all areas; from aviation to surface to subsurface," said Trammell. "The Navy needs them in those positions to provide the voice of hands-on experience in the wardroom."

The Chief asks:

"Did you know the only authorized head gear to be worn with the Navy Working Uniform (NWU) is the eight-point cap and the Navy knit watch cap? However, the knit watch cap, when authorized by appropriate authority, can only be worn during cold weather conditions.

"The NWU trouser legs shall be bloused with blousing straps so the blouse covers the top three rows of boot eyelets.

"Women may wear a plain black civilian handbag on their NWU in the manner outlined in article 3501.25 of the Navy Uniform Regulations manual or carry a civilian bag in hand.

"The only authorized T-shirt worn with the NWU is the 100 percent cotton, blue crewneck undershirt that is sold at Navy Exchange Uniform Centers. No other T-shirts are authorized to be worn with the NWU.

"If you didn't know, now you know." – MCC(SW/AW) Eric Hannah, CFAY Public Affairs