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Carlisle Barracks Soldiers who volunteered their time for the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program here pose for a group photo with Command Sgt. Maj Malcolm Parrish, Army War College CSM, Maj. Gen. Bill Rapp, USAWC Commandant, Lt. Col. Kim Peebles, Garrison Commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Charles

Rosado, Carlisle Barracks CSM during the volunteer appreciation ceremony April 30 at the LVCC. For more photos visit www.facebook.com/usawc

Soldiers, civilians, retirees, spouses and post youths were honored for donating their time and talents at the Post Chapel, Army Heritage and Education Center and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Center, and more were during a volunteer appreciation ceremony at Carlisle Barracks April 30.

Nearly 700 volunteers have donated 76,079 hours of their time and talents at 18 on-post organizations in the last year. That translates to a monetary donation of \$1,755,142.53. 100 of those volunteers attended the ceremony, received a certificate of appreciation, a volunteer pin and a group photo with Army War College and Carlisle Barracks leadership.

“I’m impressed and humbled by those that donate their time to make their communities a better place to live and work in,” said Maj. Gen. Bill Rapp, Army War College Commandant. “What makes the Army successful are the supportive communities in which we serve. You are what helps make Carlisle so special.

“You are what makes this the best hometown in the Army.”



Will Hammer, Carlisle Barracks Volunteer of the Year, was the keynote speaker for the event and shared why he volunteers.

“By volunteering I’ve learned the value of serving others and how to become more self-reliant,” he said. “I’ve been able to develop a greater pride in my community and build up my own self-confidence.”

Hammer volunteers at a variety of on-post and off-post organizations including Project SHARE, Vacation Bible School, Boy Scouts, Youth Services, and the McConnell Youth Center.



“Giving a little bit of your time magnifies the effectiveness of the organizations where you volunteer,” he said. “I can think of no better way to do your part in making your community better. Get out and volunteer.”

The theme of this year’s event was “Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care.” Army Community Service staff hand crafted clay hearts as a memento for the volunteers. Each heart was crafted individually and represents the unique contribution each volunteer makes to the community.

“Each of you really set are an outstanding example for our youth and what selfless service really means,” said Lt. Col. Kimberly Peeples, Garrison Commander. “We could not do what we do here without you, you are what helps makes this community great.”

Volunteers from multiple organizations were honored including Army Heritage and Education Center, American Red Cross at Dunham Health Clinic, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts, Retiree Council, VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance), Moore Child Development Center, Child & Youth Services, Youth Sports, Bowling, Sports, the Chapel, Military Family Programs, Conversation and Culture from the International Fellows Program, the Spouse Club and volunteers from Army Community Service.