

Cecilia Mullis Heart of the Community Nomination

In the short time I have known Cecilia Mullis, I feel so privileged that our paths crossed and I truly feel that I have become a better person by knowing her. Ceci has an unparalleled drive to reach out and help whomever and whenever she can, and that drive is 110% contagious. She never quits, she never says no, and she always leaves a project so much better and more improved than before.

During her time at Camp Zama, she has served as the ZaCSA Programs chair for two years, creating and planning monthly events and fundraisers for Zama Spouses that surely made memories to be cherished forever. So many of the events Cecilia planned were a "first" for the association but were then adopted as "regulars".

She served as high school cheer coach for Football season and volunteered to stay on through Basketball season so she could continue mentoring and molding her squad. She led the Cheer squad to DODEA Far East Championships where the Trojans competed against other squads from various US military Asian bases and they earned the Banner for 2015!!

Ceci worked relentlessly for well over six months, with "Children and Youth Sports Services" to implement a Competition Cheer program for youth ages 5-14. Ceci volunteered many hours per week including weekends, as Head Cheer Coach, to ensure the success of this program. Three squads were created and all three competed in Japan's JamFest 2015 competition; two teams took 4th place and one team earned 3rd. It was definitely a great time had by all. She planned a Cheer Expo for members of Camp Zama, which was held at Yano Gym and showcased the competition squads' skills.

As FRG leader for HHC, USARI, Cecilia planned many family events to enhance esprit de corps among the Bulldog Soldiers and Family Members. She created a blanket fundraiser which was boasted about by many, including Nancy Boozer. While her husband was assigned to 35th CSSB, she volunteered to serve as unit Secretary, set up an email account and kept detailed correspondence and records for the battalion.

Cecilia is the cornerstone of Camp Zama's gymnastics program. She built this program from the ground up and currently teaches nine classes with a total of 120 students, every single week! The amount of children she has influenced through "SKIES" is overwhelming to say the least. She is such a strong female role model. She emits positivity and self-confidence with just enough tough love to encourage growth and personal improvement; qualities which are crucial to the development and self-esteem of our youth.

It is an absolute understatement to say Cecilia Mullis has had a positive impact on the Camp Zama community. It is also an absolute understatement to merely say she "will be missed" as her and her husband prepare for their next adventure, but it is exciting to think of what she will accomplish next. Where there is a will, there is a way. And there is definitely no containing the will of Mrs. Cecilia L. Mullis.

COLLEEN MADRAZO