

## Heart of the Community February

I would like to recognize Cecilia Duarte for the Heart of the Community award. Her dedication to Camp Zama is inspiring as she works closely with our youth and adults in our community. She took on the role of our ZaCSA's fundraising chair and we have thoroughly enjoyed her events, helping to raise funds for grants and scholarships. She is a pleasure to work in and outside of her committee, making sure all details are covered and no one is left out of the process. Her committee members are excited to do what is asked of them and go above and beyond to make each event successful. It goes to show that Cecilia's dedication to her volunteer work is contagious to all who work with her.

Her overall pleasant attitude is refreshing and she desires to see all ZaCSA members get active in the community. The planned events are top-notch as her attention to detail is noticed. Not only does she work hard to raise funds for grants and scholarships, but her utmost goal is to get the whole community involved in the process, to have fun and fellowship among each other. We are so grateful to have her on our team.

Iris Cartier - Naomi Conner

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Cecilia Duarte is a Camp Zama treasure. She has thrown herself into every facet of the Zama community. Cecilia is a vital member of the Zama Community Spouses Association. This year she has taken on the daunting position of Fundraising Chair and has managed to make raising funds FUN. She spearheaded the first ZaCSA Thanksgiving Turkey Trot and Holiday Parade of Homes. Both events were incredibly successful. I am happy to serve on her committee because she makes everything she touches beautiful and classy.

Cecilia is always to lend her time and talent to help others in their endeavors. When I was planning the Thank You Luncheon last year for our Japanese Friendship Groups, Cecilia helped turn a simple classroom into an Oscar Red Carpet event to represent the state of California. It was thrilling to witness how much our guests enjoyed the fruits of her labor.

Cecilia gives to just about every other organization on Camp Zama as well. I envy her seemingly endless supply of energy. I cannot think of a more deserving candidate for the Heart of the Community Award.

Beth Sides

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What a treat it is to have the opportunity to brag on Cecilia Duarte.

I have had the distinct pleasure of working along side Cecilia for the past 3 years with the PTO board. She has been an outstanding addition to every board. When events are discussed she always has great ideas for enhancing them and will roll up her sleeves to make sure the work is completed in a timely and successful manner. No job is ever too much for her, (like organizing t-shirt orders for approximately 250 teens), or beneath her, (like putting a chocolate kiss in a ribbon tied baggie for a little elementary child to open). She is gifted at taking the ordinary and making it extraordinary. When arranging a cafeteria to look like a 1960 Sock Hop she goes the extra mile to make sure a real motorcycle is there for a one of a kind photo op. When she donates baked goods for Middle School students she makes them from scratch and decorates them as if they will be entered into a contest and not just inhaled by a bunch of kids. Cecilia is very professional when handling the Treasury position entrusted to her and is careful to make sure no errors exist and that every penny is accounted for. Her personal integrity made this position a perfect fit for her. I am thrilled that her tireless efforts are being recognized and that others are being made aware of her heart for the community.

Susan Preston

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Her compassion and love she has for the community is incredible. She went and would go out and beyond anyone's comfort zone to complete the task at hand. Mrs. Duarte helped out for the girl's soccer team's bake sale recently and it was a success! Due to her help the team now has enough money to positively create a change. Last year during Dodds she also contributed her time and effort at a bake sale, which again was another success. Also, last year at the end of the soccer season she volunteered to organize our party, it isn't easy to do when dealing with two teams worth of teenagers. Yet, somehow she was patient and produced an exciting party that everyone enjoyed. Her fantastic contribution demonstrates how an ideal member of community should be.

Girls' Soccer Team Captain Kimi Stuckey

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Cecilia has served as a fundraiser extraordinaire for both girl's and boy's soccer teams. She ran a very successful fundraiser last year during DoDDS. She also coordinated the last 2 end of year parties for both teams which were very well received. This year, she organized 2 fundraisers for the girls. The first one was tremendously successful and the 2nd one is going to be this Sunday.

Coach Manuel Duarte