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Turning the hearts of fathers to their children one dad at a time.

MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release:

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TEAMDAD NAMES 2014 MILITARY FATHERS OF THE YEAR

Barrington, IL – June 3, 2014 – TEAMDAD is pleased to announce the 2014 Military Fathers of the Year selected from more than 550 nominations received by students in Department of Defense schools in Okinawa, Japan. Students were asked to submit 250 word essays to the theme “What My Father Means to Me.” 20 local finalists were selected from more than 550 entries. Each of the fathers completed questionnaires and the following fathers were selected as 2014 Military Fathers of the Year:

Branch	Father	Student	School	Grade
Air Force	Christopher Dorr	Clara Adams	Amelia Earhart	4
Army	Raymond Quitugua	Amaya Quitugua	Kadena Middle School	6
Marines	Carlos Duran	Samantha Duran	Kadena Middle School	6
Navy	John Duenes	Ysa Anne Duenes	Kadena Elementary	5
Other	Larry Grimes	Casey Grimes	Kadena Middle School	6

All 20 local finalists, their dads, family members, and educators attended a recognition event hosted by University of Phoenix Overseas Military Campus held on April 22, 2014 at the Kadena Officers Club, Kadena Air Force Base – Okinawa, Japan.

Father Absence -

Research shows an estimated 24,000,000 children are growing up today in father-absent homes. Children from fatherless homes are more likely to live in poverty, drop out of school, use/abuse drugs and alcohol, become teen parents commit crimes and become incarcerated. Children of military families endure longer periods of time away from their dads because of deployments.

TEAMDAD - is a social business venture established in 2012 to address the epidemic of father absence in society. **Peggy Hirsch** is president of TEAMDAD LLC, a woman-owned social business venture, whose primary purpose is to inspire and equip men to be great dads.

“We believe every child needs a dad they can count on. The research is clear: children thrive when they have an involved father—someone who is present financially, physically, emotionally and spiritually,” said Hirsch. *“We inspire and equip men to be more involved fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers and father figures. We’re thrilled to honor a handful of military fathers who serve our great nation and make the time to be exemplary dads.”*



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**TEAMDAD Military Fatherhood Essay Contest local finalists & their dads.
April 22, 2014 Okinawa, Japan.**