



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE  
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU  
1411 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3231

NGB-ZC-AY

28 July 2008

Mr. Dave Van Patten  
President  
Dare Mighty Things  
1000 Market Street  
Building One, Suite 102  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Dear Mr. Van Patten,

I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for everything you and your staff did for the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program while I served as the Chief of the Office of Athletics and Youth Development. Your training programs, research, workshop planning and execution, and technical assistance elevated the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program to a new level. Because of your efforts, the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program is the nations premier at-risk youth program.

Over the years, you have displayed a level of caring that goes beyond what is necessary to provide services to our organization; for that I thank you. I am confident your high level of service to the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program will continue long after I retire.

It has been my pleasure to work with you and your staff. Again, I thank you for all you have done for the youth of America and specifically for the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Tinkham", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James R. Tinkham  
Colonel, NGB  
Chief, Office of Athletics and  
Youth Development