Dear Supporter,

The Yuma Child Burn Survivor Campaign and Yuma area firefighters are working to provide a great opportunity to as many as ten special children from Yuma County. These children are survivors of serious burns, and survivors of the physical and emotional challenges they face because of their disfiguring injuries.

Each summer, the Arizona Foundation for Burns and Trauma hosts “Camp Courage,” a week-long program that encourages campers to participate in horseback riding, swimming, arts and crafts, and many other activities while attending counseling/support group classes to assist them in dealing with their complex psycho-social issues. For one time in their life, they don’t have to be self-conscious about their appearance and can enjoy themselves as other children do at the same age.

Burn survivors overcome many unusual challenges, both physical and mental, and often with limited resources. Many undergo repeated painful surgeries, (grafting) leading to limited physical capabilities. However, these courageous heroes learn to deal with the mean-spirited comments regarding their appearance and limitations, and regain their self-esteem with assistance from programs such as the ones found at Camp Courage.

Camp Courage is staffed by caring, committed volunteers who donate a week of their time to provide safe, fun and exciting camp experiences. Carefully selected counselors offer support, guidance and life skills as campers attempt new activities or accept greater challenges. As an active counselor at Camp Courage, I can assure you that attending this camp is the highlight of their year. As a potential sponsor/supporter of Camp Courage, you can give these special children a week in their life they will cherish forever.

The Yuma Child Burn Survivors Campaign and Yuma area firefighters are hosting the 13th Annual Yuma County Burn Survivors Benefit Golf Tournament on January 26, 2008 at the Cocopah Bend Golf Resort. Please help a local burn survivor by sponsoring this wonderful cause. You can help by being a hole sponsor for $100, a corporate sponsor ranging from $250-$1,000 or by providing a raffle/door prize for the tournament.

It is our goal, we all join together so when our Yuma County campers attend Camp Courage this year, it will be the best camp ever for them. The cost to send one child to camp is $1,400. Caring for each of their needs throughout the year runs about another $1,000. Currently Yuma County has ten qualified children, so our ultimate goal is $20,000 in donations. Please help us help our children. All monies donated will go toward sending LOCAL Yuma County Child Burn Survivors to Camp Courage 2008 and to meet their individual needs throughout the year, which include school supplies, clothing, tutoring and post operative medical care and supplies.

Because of your continued dedication and commitment to our children, and the combined efforts of the community, the City of Yuma and Yuma County have become recognized as significant supporters of Camp Courage. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our children.

Sincerely,

Paul Evancho