

ServiceSource Network Employees Help the Marine Corps Celebrate 234th Birthday

Alexandria, VA—Food service employees across the ServiceSource Network were an integral part of the celebrations surrounding the United States Marine Corps' 234th Birthday on November 10, 2009.



Nearly 300 employees with disabilities work on AbilityOne food service contracts at USMC mess halls and dining facilities, including Henderson Hall and Quantico, VA, the Marine Corps Barracks at 8th & I in Washington, DC, Camp Lejeune and Cherry Point, North Carolina and Parris Island in South Carolina. On November 10, as part of a traditional

celebration, a special birthday menu was served at every USMC mess hall in the United States. The four course menu this year included shrimp cocktail, grilled steak, baked lobster tail and Marine Corps birthday cake, among other delicious options. ServiceSource employees served a total of 14,527 meals to military and civilian visitors to dining facilities in celebration of the Marine Corps' Birthday this year.

Observance of the Marine Corps Birthday is one of the most famous Marine Corps traditions. It was on November 10, 1775 that the Second Continental Congress officially established the Marine Corps with the formation of two battalions. Since 1921, the birthday of the Marine Corps has been officially celebrated every year in various ways, one of which is a special meal, complete with birthday cake. The celebration often involves the reading of Marine Corps Order 47, Commandant Lejeune's birthday message, and a cake-cutting ceremony in which the first slices of cake are given to the oldest and youngest Marines present.

Food Service accounts for 34% of the ServiceSource Network workforce. ServiceSource Network employees with disabilities serve more than 7 million meals annually at 39 mess halls and dining facilities. For more information about the ServiceSource Network and our food service operations please visit our website at www.ourpeoplework.org.