



## For Immediate Release

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### **CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS EMERALD COAST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION KICK OFF CELL PHONE COLLECTION DRIVE**

**Port Saint Joe, Florida, July 29, 2011**– More than 150,000 troops are serving overseas and are away from their families. *Cell Phones for Soldiers* and Emerald Coast Federal Credit Union are calling on all Americans to support these brave men and women by donating your unused cell phones. *Cell Phones for Soldiers* hopes to collect over 1 Million cell phones this year to help keep troops connected with their families.

“Over the past few years, we have been amazed by the generosity of others. But, we have also seen the need to continue to support our troops.” says Brittany Bergquist, *Cell Phones for Soldiers* co-founder. “It is easy for Americans to make a small sacrifice of support by donating their unused cell phones, and providing families with a much-needed connection to their loved ones overseas.”

Local residents can support the collection drive by donating their phones at any Emerald Coast Federal Credit Union location, including:

- 502 Woodward Avenue in Port Saint Joe; and
- 101 East River Road in Wewahitchka.

“We’re proud to show our support for U.S. soldiers, and to contribute to a worthy cause like *Cell Phones for Soldiers*,” says April Redmond, Operations Manager of Emerald Coast Federal Credit Union.

*Cell Phones for Soldiers* was founded by teenagers Robbie and Brittany Bergquist from Norwell, Mass., with \$21 of their own money. Since then, the registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization has raised millions of dollars in donations and distributed millions of prepaid calling cards to soldiers serving overseas.

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**“Donate Your Old Cell Phones and Help Our Troops Call Home”**



## Cell Phones for Soldiers™

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“We are continuously overwhelmed by the enthusiastic support of thousands of Americans who have helped our troops speak with their loved ones,” says the teens’ father, Bob Bergquist. “However, the need for support keeps growing as more troops are sent to the Middle East or are asked to serve extended tours of duty.”

Through increased fundraising efforts, the Bergquist family hopes to raise more than \$10 million in the next five years to fund new programs, such as providing video phones and prepaid service to allow troops abroad to see their families on a regular basis.

The donated phones are sent to ReCellular, which pays *Cell Phones for Soldiers* for each phone – the money is used to purchase prepaid calling cards which are sent to troops.

Approximately half of the phones ReCellular processes are reconditioned and resold to wholesale companies in over 40 countries around the world. Phones and components that cannot be refurbished are dismantled and recycled to reclaim materials, including:

- Gold, silver and platinum from circuit boards
- Copper wiring from phone chargers
- Nickel, iron, cadmium and lead from battery packs
- Plastic from phone cases and accessories

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### **About ReCellular Inc.:**

*With offices in the United States and Hong Kong, ReCellular Inc. is the world’s leading electronics sustainability firm. We provide solutions for the collection, reuse and recycling of used personal electronics that generate financial return for our partners, quality products for our customers, funding for charity organizations, and protection of the environment. Corporate and wholesale information is available at [www.ReCellular.com](http://www.ReCellular.com). Charity fundraising and consumer information, including the Cell Phone Data Eraser® tool is available at [www.wirelessrecycling.com](http://www.wirelessrecycling.com).*

**“Donate Your Old Cell Phones and Help Our Troops Call Home”**

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