



OPERATION GRATITUDE
SENDING CARE PACKAGES TO U.S. MILITARY



December 31, 2011

Caren Franz, DMD
847 Easton Road, Suite 2600
Warrington, PA 18976

Greetings from the Armory!

On behalf of **OPERATION GRATITUDE** and the United States Military members who receive our care packages, I thank you for your generosity and support of our Halloween Candy Drive.

Your generous support and donation of 69 lbs of candy will enable us to send over **100,000 'chock full' Care Packages** this year to the brave men and women deployed overseas, their children waiting at home and the Wounded Warriors recuperating stateside, including the shipment of our **750,000th Care Package on December 17th**! The hundreds of letters we have received from the troops (which can be read in the Mail Call section of our website) attest to the positive and lasting impact of your kindness. As General David H. Petraeus, Commanding, wrote in response to receiving his own care package from Operation Gratitude:

"On behalf of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airman, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen serving in Iraq, I want to thank you for the support of Operation Gratitude. As you are well aware, we continue to ask a great deal of our troopers. Organizations such as yours play a critical role in making deployments more bearable. The generous care packages your organization sends are a tangible reminder to our troops here in Iraq of the support of Americans back home. Moreover, our troops truly appreciate the goodies contained inside the boxes!"

And a Private First Class wrote:

"I cannot express to you how great it feels to come home after a long day of running missions to find a care package full of love sitting on your bunk. You are exhausted from wearing 50 plus pounds of armor for hours on end, then you open the package, see all that love, and are rejuvenated and ready to face the world again. It may sound small but it really does help enormously. Our location doesn't have a real PX so we rely on the support of people at Operation Gratitude for the morale boosting items we need. You all are the true heroes. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Enclosed are several of our new Operation Gratitude '10 Easy Ways to Help' cards. Please help us spread our word by sharing them with your friends and family!

Operation Gratitude has been granted non-profit status under Section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Your contribution to this organization is fully deductible in accordance with applicable law for federal income tax purposes as no goods or services were provided in exchange.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and wonderful patriotic spirit. You play an integral role in putting smiles on the faces of tens of thousands of our troops, and in military parlance, your support is a "force multiplier" to the ultimate mission. The brave members of the U.S. Military who receive your generosity will remember your kindness forever. And we will always be appreciative of your generosity and encouragement of **OPERATION GRATITUDE**.

Fondly,


Carolyn Blashek

President/Founder