



**OPERATION GRATITUDE**  
 SENDING CARE PACKAGES TO U.S. MILITARY



August 3, 2011

Kol Tikvah  
 Attn: Megan Usow  
 6750 University Drive  
 Parkland, FL 33067

Dear Ms. Usow and Friends,

On behalf of OPERATION GRATITUDE, the U.S. troops deployed overseas, and the Wounded Warriors here at home who will benefit from your kindness, I thank you for your generosity.

Your donation of letters will enable us to send over 100,000 'chock full' Care Packages this year to the brave men and women deployed overseas and the Wounded Warriors recuperating stateside. The care packages contain snacks, toiletries, entertainment items and letters from caring students and adults. Receipt of such demonstrations of love and concern from the homeland offers our troops a much-deserved respite from the hardships of service, and is always greeted with enthusiasm and great appreciation.

As one 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 items we need--not to mention the morale boosting items such as cookies or candy. 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. Operation Gratitude welcomes donations of all products in furtherance of its mission to support our Military. We reserve the right to determine the appropriate disposition of each donated item.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and wonderful patriotic spirit - every donation we receive truly makes a difference to our mission of putting smiles on service members' faces. The brave members of the U.S. Military who receive your generosity will remember your kindness forever. And I will always be appreciative of your support and encouragement for OPERATION GRATITUDE.

Fondly,

  
 Carolyn Blashek  
 President

p.s. To receive email updates on Operation Gratitude's progress, please email me at: [cblashek@aol.com](mailto:cblashek@aol.com); for current info and troop letters, "Like" us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OperationGratitude](http://www.facebook.com/OperationGratitude) and "follow" us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/OpGratitude](http://www.twitter.com/OpGratitude). Thank you!