



CYPRESS CARES

★ COMMUNIQUÉ ★

August, 2008

CREATIVE IDEAS to support the troops

On your own, with friends or family...

- Clip coupons from the Sunday paper, buy products when they are on sale
- Pack a box as a family, take a picture of your family and make a card to include in the box and send to a troop
- Have a family card making night, for every card you make, donate \$1 to support the Cypress Cares cost of shipping

Through a school...

- Adopt a troop at the classroom or grade level
- Host a themed donation drive for goods to include in the boxes
- Set up 'thank you' card signing tables in the hallway once for the children, faculty and parents to sign or make cards for the soldiers
- Host a fundraiser through your parent teacher organization
- Host a book/ DVD/ CD drive for the troops

Through a business...

- Make a financial contribution to Cypress Cares
- Donate your product samples received from vendors
- Set up a donation drop box for one week (Cypress Cares will provide the boxes) for customers to donate items within your store
- Publicize the organization on our behalf to your vendors

Five months into our mission to support our troops, and our small, grass-roots organization continues to grow. In July, Cypress Cares volunteers packed up 75 boxes and shipped them off to Iraq and Afghanistan. Today we received our first word that those boxes are reaching their destination. Check out the letter from Brandon on our "From The Troops" page. It is a stark reminder that more and more troops need support from "home."

We continue to gain new volunteers to our group and this is wonderful. There were a few young children who helped box up our last couple of shipments, and while doing so, they got to learn the importance of helping others. Families have gotten to spend time together doing something for someone else. And seeing what all these troops need/want in their packages, really puts into perspective what we have here at home. That new pair of shoes just doesn't seem so important any longer.

We are also seeing a growth in the number of troops we are supporting. We started with about 10 soldiers names, and now we have 72 individual service members PLUS two full Army companies that we are sending packages to. We are making a difference in the life of each of these personnel.

If you want to participate, just let us know and keep an eye on our "upcoming events" so you know what we have scheduled for the future. Thank you for your support! ■ **cc**

SUGGESTED DONATIONS

- Recent DVDs
- Current magazines
- Powdered Gatorade
- Crackers, cookies
- Clorox Wipes
- Stress balls
- Writing paper, envelopes, pens
- Disposable razors
- Jump Ropes
- Yo-yo's

SPECIAL THANKS

Our sponsors are very important to the success of this effort. We thank you for your continued support and promotion of our efforts.

En-Touch Systems, Inc.
Houston

Houston Astros
Houston

Cub Scout Pack 1179, Den 5
Girl Scout Troop 14103
Sampson Elementary School

Graves & Co
Houston

NW Houston Mothers of Multiples
Cypress

NSI Technologies, INC.
Tulsa, OK

SAVE THE DATE

upcoming events

13 September

Volunteer meeting, all welcome to attend

11 October

Box packing party

17 October

Christmas card signing at Cole's Crossing

18 October

Christmas card signing at Cole's Crossing

THE REASON WE SERVE

feedback from the battlefield

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time out of your very busy life to send these packages to the troops. Everyone here works so hard, and focuses so much on we are doing, that receiving a box of goodies really makes you think of home. Please keep up the great work, and thank you for think about us.

M. M. Anderson

IQATF MA4-3 BCT FOB Kalsu

I have received all 4 boxes and in good faith have distributed them to soldiers who wanted them. I am requesting a massive donation of care packages to the same address as sent before. Many soldiers have come up to me requesting care packages. Several have given me permission to submit their names to be on Cypress Care's List of needy soldiers. (the list of names is not posted on this site for security purposes)

I need as many care packages as possible shipped for distribution to over 70+ soldiers who have requested a care package but have not submitted their names. Thank you and I appreciate your efforts. Word of Cypress Care's mission is spreading like wildfire. I can barely keep up with these requests.

Brandon



Cypress Cares is a local chapter of the national 501 (c)(3) organization 'Support Our Troops'. Cypress Cares is dedicated to providing community support for the troops who protect our freedoms through care packages and letters of encouragement from those of us who are proud to be Americans.

www.cypress-cares.org ■ cypress_cares@yahoo.com
