

# SOLDIERSCAREPACKAGES.COM

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J Ginnell in Afghanistan  
P Dorsch in Afghanistan  
M Scharfenberg in Kuwait  
J Keller in Afghanistan  
T Perkins in Afghanistan  
D Millikan in Afghanistan  
G Graham in Afghanistan  
A Grubb in Afghanistan  
T Peace in Afghanistan  
J Staats in Iraq  
P Koenen in Italy  
I Nadeau in Afghanistan  
P Riordan in South Korea



## Cumulative Stats

**36,500 lbs. of donations have been shipped since 2005.**

**\$70,000 raised from community donations since 2007.**

**168 Point Leaders since 2005 (some serving multiple times).**



Soldiers we are now serving:

**13**  
and growing



Current cost to mail a  
Flat Rate Priority Mail  
package to a Soldier is  
**\$17.40**

## Special Announcement

Hello to all Care Package Supporters,

**I'M BACK.**

After 3 rough years battling leukemia, side effects, immune suppression, other illnesses requiring treatments, and just plain fatigue, I made it through. I still suffer from different discomforts (I will pace myself), but I am itching to get back to our Soldiers and their Care Packages.

The first thing I must do is publicly thank my Co-Director, Jodie Toberer, who admirably guided this outreach while I was on medical leave. Momentum never stopped. To say that she was dumped in at the deep end is an understatement, but she has a passion for our Soldiers and this ministry and she carried out her commitment with a smile and enthusiasm even while holding down a demanding full time job. She did a tremendous job in every aspect and I, as all of us and our Soldiers, wish to thank her from the bottom of our hearts. I have enjoyed coming back to work with her again.

Jodie also had needed and proficient help from her assistant, Jennifer Meallo, who will continue to contribute her talents. Her willingness and energy always accomplished a lot.

And lastly I want to thank all of **you** Supporters who continued to be faithful to our Soldiers with your donations and prayers, as well as maintaining your support of me while I went through my medical battles. Some of you contributed to the JoyFund, for which I am forever grateful. Others sent cards, emails, and prayers. I thank everyone for their exceptional kindnesses during a time when I really needed them.

But now, I'm back in the saddle with motivation and goals of increased productivity, particularly as a part of a top-notch team. I hope you will be revitalized too, especially with so many Soldiers needing our Care Packages and support.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joy Thomson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joy" being more prominent and the last name "Thomson" written in a continuous script.

Joy Thomson  
Director

**You are still the foundation of this outreach.  
You are extremely appreciated.**



**Thank you Jodie!**

## **PLANTING A SEED . . . . .**

### **Thinking about a July 4th party? Cookout? What about a Care Package theme?**

It's only a few weeks away. So in theme with the holiday, how about asking your guests to bring a Care Package donation?

Send them to [www.SoldiersCarePackages.com/html/needed\\_items.html](http://www.SoldiersCarePackages.com/html/needed_items.html) for a full list of item suggestions.

What a wonderful and effortless thing to do for our deployed troops.

### **And what about birthday parties to benefit our Troops?**

It all started with 6 year old Charlie Goebel. Instead of receiving presents for himself at his birthday party, he requested gifts for Soldiers. Word got around. It's become a popular idea. You can do it too!!



## Great Notes From Our Point Leaders:

★ I am a platoon leader within the 1072nd Transportation Company.... While deployed and separated from families the Soldiers can often get down due to missing home and their families as well as the ease of access to many things others may take for granted. Receiving care packages often raises moral and motivates the Soldiers. I am signing up for this program in an effort to raise my Soldiers moral and show them that people back home care about them and their well-being. My Soldiers are currently housed in tents and trailers. The electricity outlets located here are 220V. Through trades and buying items some of the Soldiers have gained access to refrigerators, microwaves, and coffee pots. We do have a PX located on base but it is small and lacks many items that the Soldiers need. Being that we are a Transportation Company the Soldiers spend a lot of time working on trucks and driving in convoys. We are beginning to get into the hotter months of the year out here so staying cool and hydration is a concern of mine for them.... Thank you for your support in helping raise spirits while deployed and away from our families. — *M Scharfenberg*

★ First off, thank you for all the support. We appreciate it more than we can express. We are an integrated unit of Air Advisors working on and off secured locations in Afghanistan.... We live in hardened billets with 2-4 per room and eat at a dining facility/chow hall. Some requested items are: Tea and Coffee (medium blend both ground and K-pods,), DVDs, tuna, crab, chicken salad cans, spices to jazz up the meals or MREs, hot sauce, Thai chili sauce and Sriracha sauce are very popular, books, hair ties for women, soap/deodorant, toothpaste, powder, female hygiene, and air fresheners. Thank you. — *P Dorsch*

★ We are a small team operating in an austere environment; the Army makes sure we have everything we need to complete our mission, but small things, like AA and AAA batteries, or protein bars, are always in short supply. Also, parents take education very seriously here, and the local children are always thankful for any school supplies (pencils, notebooks, backpacks) we can give them. Thank you again for all your support. — *D Millikan*

★ We live in barracks and work in the hospital. Some of us do get pushed out forward to conduct missions though sometimes. We have electricity. We have a community microwave and some of us have refrigerators. We have 5 females with us. We are all medics. — *A Grubb*

★ Hello, and Good morning. Living conditions are 12 man tents with 110v. Our food is given 3 times a day but sometimes it is limited and undercooked. We do have jetboils but no propane. We do not have microwaves or fridges. I represent my 12 man team as advisors. We just got a laundry facility up, so glad. We do not have a USO or a PX. Our moral will always be high but I do fear it will dwindle with nothing to do on our off time. I have made my guys enroll in school so we have that. I thank you all for your consideration. We will continue to fight with what we have and whatever you are able to send will make us fight that much harder. Thank you. — *T Perkins*

★ From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of everyone here I can't thank you enough. Your contributions and (everyone's) love and support has found us safe and we appreciate all the little gestures that may not seem like much to a lot of people but we've come to love and appreciate the things you guys do for us. We also understand that though to you it might seem normal we couldn't be more thankful for y'all going out of your ways and inconveniencing yourselves to let us know we still matter and what we do means something. Thank you so much again from the bottom of my heart. — *T Norman*

★ Your help will be especially welcomed because we don't have regular access to a store or any place to buy these things. We live on an Iraqi base that they let us use a portion of, and it doesn't have any of the services or amenities of an American base. — *G Miller*

★ (We are) so blessed to have your love and support from (everyone). Thank you so much. You have no idea how packages help us stay motivated and encouraged out here. That is because it gets very lonely and packages remind us that we are not forgotten. — *S Robertson*



# Thank You for **2017 HALLOWEEN CANDY TO OUR TROOPS...**

Enthusiastic community support ensured that our US Soldiers in the Middle East and Europe had yummy Halloween treats. Many families, schools, businesses, and Scout troops contributed excess candy to our Care Package Outreach. Bags and boxes of candy were collected in the FBC office and then packed and shipped to Point Leaders who distributed the candy to their units and even local children in Iraq, Kuwait, South Korea, and Afghanistan.

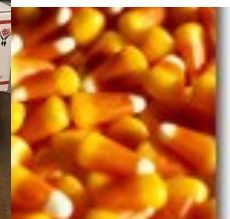
**We sent out a total of 778 lbs of candy.**

FBC appreciates everyone's support as do our Soldiers half way around the world. Some of you we thanked face to face. And some of you placed donations inside our Donation Trunk on our porch when we weren't here.

**We want to THANK EVERYONE, whether we greeted you in person or not.**



Packages of Halloween candy (below) lined both sides of our entry hall. We could not get them all in the photo!



## Current Donation Requests:

Protein bars, cans of fruit (small), baby wipes, hand sanitizer, Febreze, Icy Hot patches, coffee.

All donations are sent immediately.

For other suggestions go to: [http://www.SoldiersCarePackages.com/html/needed\\_items.html](http://www.SoldiersCarePackages.com/html/needed_items.html)



## NOTES:

*The First Baptist Church will pack and ship items for you. Donations may be brought to the FBC Office in the building to the right of the church. There will be a donation box on the porch. FBC is in Hingham Square on the corner of Elm and Main Street, 2 doors up from Loring Theater.*

***Our "Point Leaders" are soldiers who receive our Care Packages and always have a connection with Hingham. They distribute donated items to their unit, focusing on the greatest need.***

*For those who prefer to send a financial contribution toward postage instead of shopping for items, it will be gratefully accepted. Please make a check out to First Baptist Church Benevolence Account and note "Care Packages Postage" on the memo line. Mail to 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043.*

