



# Care Package Collection Drive

## What is Operation Gratitude?

Operation Gratitude is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, volunteer-based organization based in Chatsworth, CA that sends care packages & letters of support to our nation's Heroes. Their mission is twofold: To lift morale in the Military and First Responder communities, and to provide every American an opportunity to say "Thank You" to all who serve.

Since the organization started in 2003, over 1.6 Million care packages have been assembled and shipped!

## What Items Are Needed?

Pens  
iPods  
Candy  
DVDs and CDs  
Video Games  
Novelty toys (small)  
USB Flash Drives  
Board Games (travel size)  
Handheld electronic games (travel size)  
Notebooks or Spiral Pads (pocket-sized)  
Beanie Babies, Webkinz, or other Small Plush Toys (6 inches or smaller)

Gloves  
Bandana Coolers/Cool-Ties  
Mini/Personal Fans (battery operated)  
Screen-printed T-Shirts, Baseball Style Caps  
Socks (preferably black, brown, green, tan; not white)

Yarn (for our knitters to make scarves)  
Blank Holiday/Birthday/Anniversary/Thank You Greeting Cards  
Used Cell Phones, Video Games & Systems, iPods & Ink Cartridges  
Gift Cards to iTunes and Chain/Grocery Stores  
Prepaid VISA/MasterCard/AmEx cards

Razors  
Dental Floss  
Toothbrushes  
Lotion (travel size)  
Toothpaste (travel size)  
Mouthwash (travel size)  
Hand and Foot Warmers  
Lip Balm (with seal)  
Roll-on deodorant (travel size)  
Moist Towelettes (individual packets)  
Foot Powder (travel size containers)  
Non-aerosol Shaving Cream (Gel or Cream based only)

Trail Mix  
Energy Bars  
Nuts/Sunflower Seeds  
Beef Jerky (small/individual packets)  
Single-serving Powdered Beverage Mixes  
Ready-to-Eat Tuna or Chicken Salad Kits  
Hot/Cold Cereal (single serving packets)

Paracord "Survival" Bracelets  
Hand-knit/crocheted Hats and Scarves (scarves are 4" x 36")  
Handwritten and unsealed drawings, cards and letters expressing your gratitude for their service

## Where Do The Items Go After the Collection Drive is Over?

Once your items arrive at Operation Gratitude, they are logged in, sorted, and moved to the warehouse for packing on an upcoming Assembly Day. Each care package is assembled with 50-75 items that have been generously donated by individuals and companies. From there, the care packages are individually addressed to all branches of deployed US Troops around the world, as well as New Recruits, Children of the Deployed, Wounded Heroes, Veterans, and First Responder units across the country.

Each care package costs \$15 to assemble and ship.

Financial contributions to help cover the shipping costs are also welcome.

You can donate online at: [www.OperationGratitude.com/Donate](http://www.OperationGratitude.com/Donate)

**Drop-off Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Collection Deadline:** \_\_\_\_\_

To learn more, please visit [OperationGratitude.com](http://OperationGratitude.com)