



Honor and Comfort for Our Wounded Troops

About Us

Operation: Quiet Comfort (OQC) began its efforts on behalf of Wounded Warriors in 2004 by providing our Four Freedoms Gratitude Quilts and GO Bags. The quilts are inspired by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1941 address to congress where he cited the "Four Freedoms" which later became famous in paintings by renowned American artist, Norman Rockwell.

- **Freedom of Speech and Expression**
- **Freedom of Every Man to Worship God in His Own Way**
- **Freedom From Want**
- **Freedom From Fear**

The quilts are created from our well-loved, and well-worn, blue jeans and embellished with loving messages of encouragement and thanks. They are used to comfort our wounded men and women overseas, and often to warm them on the long cold flight to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) in Germany. The GO Bags are transition kits filled with comfort items for sick and injured service members who often arrive at the hospital from the battlefield – and without their personal items.

Before long we realized that these items, and others, were needed more urgently at the Combat Support Hospitals and other medical units in Afghanistan and Iraq. Our contacts in-country helped us understand that by providing these gifts at their "first stop for medical care" those moving to a higher level of care would arrive at LRMC with the needed items, and the sick and injured troops who would return to the fight would also have their needs met.

Nearly 4 years later, OQC enjoys the support of thousands of Americans from across the globe with their gifts of time, talent and resources. We remain as grass-roots as we started in 2004 and we're very proud of that.

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One of the most important guiding principles at work for OQC is to make sure our organization is sustainable over time, and flexible enough to accommodate the ever-changing needs of our deployed medical units, particularly during this time of war.

We also wanted our legacy to be one of service that would ensure a new generation of military heroes were honored and comforted in their time of distress with the thanks and appreciation of a grateful nation. And our projects needed to include provisions for people to participate and put "hands-on". It isn't enough to

ask for and receive monetary donations – we want our sponsors and donors to have the opportunity to see how their gifts are being used and to roll up their sleeves to make it happen. And they are.

Lastly, it's of critical importance to our Founder, Lori Pate, that our efforts reflect the quiet dignity of our military men and women as they transition from Soldiers to patients, and so our work is conducted quietly – without a great deal of fanfare.

We have it on good authority that our efforts are meaningful to those we serve and that matters to everyone at Operation: Quiet Comfort. We work very closely with our medical units so that we ship what they need, when they need it and in a manner that is consistent with the military regulations they serve under.

Mission Statement

Established in July 2004 to honor and comfort members of the U.S. Armed Forces injured while in harm's way, and provide support to those who care for them.

Target Population

Deployed Medical Units – including Combat Support Hospitals, Forward Surgical Teams, Combat Stress Control Units, and Aid Stations. We also support Medics and Corpsmen on mission with our infantry units serving on the front lines.

Chaplains – those who, by virtue of their position and assignment, are responsible for the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of our military men and women.

Honor and Comfort: Home Front – providing comfort items for our heroes who are healing at Warrior Transition Units here at home. We have begun our work here at home by augmenting the military's continuum of care with the kind of love and comfort only a grateful nation can provide. OQC is taking "Packing Day" on the road to the community near the Warrior Transition Unit that will be honored.

We invite you to examine our work in 2007 which is found on the adjacent pages. We thank you for your consideration of our efforts at home and abroad. They still need us and we have an "iron determination" to be there for them.

For additional information, please contact:

Lori Pate, Executive Director and Founder

lpate@operationquietcomfort.com

Office phone: 734/384-3253

Cell phone: 734/777-5742



Operation: Quiet Comfort Summary of Charitable Activities - 2007

As the violence escalated this past year and our troops surged to gain control and help establish safe havens for the people of Afghanistan and Iraq, OQC surged support into both areas of operation. We are proud to have stepped up to provide meaningful support to our sick and injured heroes - and those amazing medical professionals who care for them.

UNITS SERVED OVERSEAS

In 2007, Operation: Quiet Comfort supported 64 units in Afghanistan, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait, Kosovo and Germany. The size of these units range from a 6-man medic team positioned with an Infantry Unit on the front lines to Combat Support Hospitals with hundreds of staff – who treated thousands of U.S. Military men and women, coalition forces, DoD contractors, and civilians.

Essential Supplies

- 882 GO Bags (transition kits for sick and injured troops)
- 157 Four Freedoms Gratitude Quilts
- 235 Litter Quilts
- 202 Travel pillow
- 422 Travel pillowcases
- 96 Inflatable travel pillows
- 114 Prayer shawls and lapghans
- 490 Bed and bath linens
- 6,393 Clothing and grooming supplies
- 1,103 Cool Comfort Neck Ties
- 170 Sets of hospital scrubs
- 97 Steel whistles for female personal security
- 75 Small flashlights for female personal security
- 10 Bedside lamps



Morale and Quality-of-Life Supplies

- 802 Coffee, tea, and condiments
- 10,330 Healthy snacks
- 1,290 Sweet treats
- 320 Microwave meals
- 7,340 On-The-Go drink mix tubes for bottled water
- 3,300 Freezer pops
- 20 Personal DVD Players for patients
- 215 DVDs
- 45 AT&T Global Long Distance Calling Cards for Combat Stress Control Units
- 1 Digital Camcorder, case and media
- 1 CD Writer

- 7 Sports equipment
- 23 Water balloon launchers and thousands of water bombs
- 66 Cases of dermatology supplies
- 188 Foot care supplies, sunscreen and insect repellent
- 1 Deep Heat Percussion Massager
- 84 Large packages of wet wipes
- 15 Coffeemakers and drinkware

Holiday Shipment

- 39 Bread machines
- 456 Bread machine mixes
- 235 Jams, jellies, peanut butter, and spreads
- 550 Apple Pies-In-A-Jar
- 46 Pre-baked gingerbread house kits
- 13 Breakfast-In-A-Box gifts
- 472 Jig saw puzzles, games and craft kits
- 346 Pinewood Derby Car Kits
- 628 Hobby tools and craft supplies
- 70 Holiday decorations
- 42 Holiday music CDs



HOME FRONT ASSISTANCE

Throughout the year, Operation: Quiet Comfort assisted 12 individual wounded Soldiers and families in need by providing Four Freedoms Gratitude Quilts or assistance with bills that were creating hardships. In addition, OQC accomplished its first large-scale effort on the home front by assisting more than 500 wounded troops attached to the Warrior Transition Battalion at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Honor and Comfort: Home Front

Fort Campbell, Kentucky edition

- 504 GO Bags modified for stateside use
 - 504 Linen packages for twin bed - *Made in the USA* (comforter, cotton thermal blanket, pillow and pillowcase)
 - 89 Electric can openers
 - 89 Jar openers
 - 94 Commercial wall-mounted room air fresheners
 - 1 Case of air freshener refills for each barracks room
- A pallet full of convenience foods for their pantry shelves
 Several cases of assorted grooming and hygiene supplies



- **2007 Program Expenses: \$114,039**
- **92 cents of each dollar spent directly supported those we serve**