

Operation Help a Hero

www.operationhelpahero.com or on facebook

Operation Help a Hero is an IRS approved 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to the well-being and care of our American military members. Its programs support military units and families as they prepare for separation, while they endure the challenges of deployment, and as they transition back to the US. It is an all-volunteer organization. All board members and directors volunteer their time to focus all donations on our projects and the military heroes they serve. Every cent contributed to Operation Help a Hero is used to serve our military community, and every project is based on real needs.

Operation Rack Pack (Barracks Project)

In February, we will be collecting and donating items for 2/4 (Second Battalion, Fourth Marines) out of Camp Pendleton. The unit will be returning from Afghanistan in March after a 6 month deployment. Operation Help a Hero will be cleaning and decorating the barracks and providing Welcome Home baskets for these dedicated young men and women. To volunteer your time or learn more about the organization, visit their website.

Wish List

Please bring any of the following items to our February meeting. *The most needed items are in **bold**.*

- Toiletries (**toothbrush**, toothpaste, **shaving cream**, soap, razors, lotion, **deodorant**, shampoo, etc.)
- **\$10 Gift Cards: to local fast food restaurants, stores and gas stations**
- Gift cards for other shopping needs: \$5-\$10 Starbucks, gas cards, Wal-Mart, Target, & grocery store cards, Visa & Amex gift cards in small increments, etc.
- Snack foods: chips, cookies, brownies, noodle bowls, candy, non-perishable microwave food, popcorn, etc.
- Paper and plastic ware (paper plates, forks, spoons, knives, paper towels, napkins, and baggies)
- Entertainment items (magazines, playing cards, **DVDs- new or gently used**, CDs, games, books, iTunes cards, etc.)
- **Towel sets (towels, hand towels and wash cloths)**
- Welcome home signs/ cards
- T-shirt, pillow case and socks
- Netflix or Blockbuster gift cards, movie tickets
- Drinks (soda, water, dry drink mixes, Gatorade, etc.)

MISSION: To let the brave, young men and women of our Armed Forces know the sacrifices they've made on our behalf are appreciated. Through gifts and sentiments of gratitude left in their barracks rooms (on their racks/beds), we hope to surprise young, single service members returning from deployment to barracks rooms. We will provide them with a clean room, presents to show our appreciation, a fridge full of refreshments, necessities to help them clean up, welcome home signs, and more. Our goal is for each hero to know that others appreciate his/her service. Ideally, they will be able to come home with the ability to take a shower, put on clean clothes, get some dinner and enjoy some pampering without having to go into storage or to the store. We want to pamper them with gifts just when they think they've been forgotten.