



Christmas for Soldiers Holiday Care Package Project



Pick up a **Large Flat Rate Priority US Postage Box** at church (12" x 12" x 5-1/2") starting Sunday, October 25, 2009. Keep the size of the box in mind when you purchase items, as your space is limited. You are not limited on weight in the box. This box must be used. If you turn the items in without this box, we will package/repackage it for you.

You may send more than one box to one soldier. You will need to pick up the extra box(es) from the post office, as the church has a limited supply. Then, when you turn the packages in, make sure the multiple boxes are marked with something removable with the soldier's name.



Return the filled box back in to the church with \$12 for each box to be shipped by **Sunday, November 15**. Do not attempt to ship these boxes on your own. If you need to write a check, you make it out to Cicero Christian Church, with USO in the memo. The church will seal and label the box and get it to the USO in bulk to send to the soldiers.

Purchase **EIGHT REQUIRED ITEMS** for the box, pictured above. You don't have to purchase exactly as shown, these are examples only. Focus on individual size packaging.

REQUIRED ITEMS

- Beef Jerky
- Assorted Lance Crackers
- Nuts (can or bag)
- Magazines (Popular Science, Reader's Digest, Hunting... etc.)
- Kleenex Splash-'n-Go (toiletries)
- Dried Fruit
- Blank Christmas Cards (at least 6)
- Hand Sanitizer

Follow these instructions:

- Do not send homemade baked items or anything containing chocolate (m&ms are okay)
- Make sure all price tags have been removed
- Check expiration dates on food products and do not send expired products
- Wrap a couple items in holiday paper or put in decorative bag
- Travel size hygiene items (NO hotel samples)
- Some troops may have allergies and need name brand toiletries

You may also include **SUGGESTED ITEMS** (it has to all fit in the box!). A list of these items is on the next page.

SUGGESTED ITEMS

food

- Summer sausage
- Chicken or tuna salad kits (foil pouches)
- Granola bars / power bars / cereal bars / cliff bars
- Rice Krispy Treats (store bought only)
- Instant oatmeal packets
- Trail mix
- Fruit Roll-Ups
- Hard Pretzels / Cheetos / Fritos (single serving bags)
- Pringles (single serving cans)
- Chips / salsa (plastic jar)
- Popcorn Balls (wrapped, store bought)
- Microwave popcorn
- Ramen noodles
- Presweetened powdered drink mix
- Instant coffee / hot chocolate packets
- Instant soups
- Condiments (hot sauce, mayo, mustard, ketchup, sugar, salt, pepper...)
- Spices: garlic powder, onion powder, lemon pepper, horseradish, all spice... (plastic containers)
- Hard candy (individually wrapped, no chocolate)
- Jolly Ranchers (to add to bottled water to flavor)
- Chewing gum
- Mints / Certs / Tic Tacs

toiletries

- Body Wash (liquid soap)
- Shampoo/conditioner combined
- Deodorant
- Body powder
- Foot powder/cream
- Toothpaste/tooth brush (with protector cap)
- Dental floss
- Comb / brush
- Disposable razors
- Shaving cream (in tube)
- Lip balm
- Icy/Hot patches
- Eye drops
- Nasal spray
- Lozenges/cough drops
- Biofreeze (any pain reliever cream)
- Aleve
- Band-Aids
- Antibiotic Cream
- Q-Tips

miscellaneous

- Shoe insole cushions (gel)
- Inflatable pillow
- Stress relief squeeze ball
- Socks (black or white, cotton or wool blend)
- Hand warmers (reusable if possible)
- Foot warmers
- Emergency blanket
- Batteries (all sizes)
- DVD movies (new or used - recent)
- Music CDs
- Paperback books (action/thriller)
- Electronic handheld games
- Disposable camera
- Travel-size board games
- Pens / small not pads
- Stationary / envelopes
- Crossword puzzles / word search / sudoku
- Playing cards
- Checkers / chess / dominoes
- Holiday decorations (small wreaths, garland, etc.)

for local children

- Beanie babies
- Dum Dum suckers
- Bubble gum
- Balls, balloons
- Individually wrapped candy (no chocolate)

