

## **NFPA ANNOUNCES CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP WITH OPERATION GRATITUDE**



### **Overview**

NFPA is pleased to announce our corporate partnership with Operation Gratitude. Operation Gratitude sends Care Packages filled with entertainment, hygiene, and handmade items, non-perishable snacks, and personal letters of appreciation to U.S. Troops, First Responders, Veterans, Military Families, and Wounded Heroes & their Care Givers. The NFPA Pro Bono and Armed Forces Committees are pleased to support this wonderful project. This project provides our associations with the opportunity to express our gratitude to those who serve. Additional information on Operation Gratitude is available at <https://www.operationgratitude.com/>

### **Local Association Contribution**

We would like to concentrate our initial efforts on collection drives. We will be expanding our involvement into other areas in the upcoming months. Initially, we would encourage each local association to arrange a collection drive at an upcoming event, i.e., committee meeting, board meeting, luncheon, etc. We have been advised by Operation Gratitude that they are in great need of men's black crew socks as well as men's travel size deodorant. Therefore, we would initially ask members to donate one of these items at an upcoming collection drive.

### **How to Host A Collection Drive**

Hosting a Collection Drive is easy! Here are some suggestions:

- (1) Select a date and/or location for the collection drive;
- (2) Notify membership of the collection drive;
- (3) Create materials (e-mails or flyers) to advertise the collection drive;
- (4) Specify what items will be collected (black socks & men's travel size deodorant)
- (5) Arrange for a basket or box to collect donations;
- (6) Take pictures at the collection drive and forward to Nicole Martinez at [kynicole1977@gmail.com](mailto:kynicole1977@gmail.com).

## **Ready to Ship**

Once all donations are received you will need to arrange for shipment of a box to Operation Gratitude as follows:

- (1) Complete the Donation Form <https://www.operationgratitude.com/product-donation>;
- (2) Place all items in a plastic bag;
- (3) Place the plastic bag in a box (not to exceed 50 pounds);
- (4) Ship the box of items to Operation Gratitude, 21100 Lassen Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311;
- (5) If funds for shipping are an issue, check with a local veterans group, vendor or sponsor to see if any would partner with your association to cover the shipping- most shipping costs are minimal;
- (6) Operation Gratitude will send a thank you letter to your association within eight (8) weeks

## **Questions?**

If your local association or members have any questions regarding this program, please contact Nicole Martinez at [kynicole1977@gmail.com](mailto:kynicole1977@gmail.com). Thank you!

Many thanks to the NFPA Board for their support of this project,  
Christine Flynn & Nicole Martinez, NFPA Pro Bono Committee  
Linda Odermott, RP<sup>®</sup>, OCP, NFPA Armed Forces Coordinator