



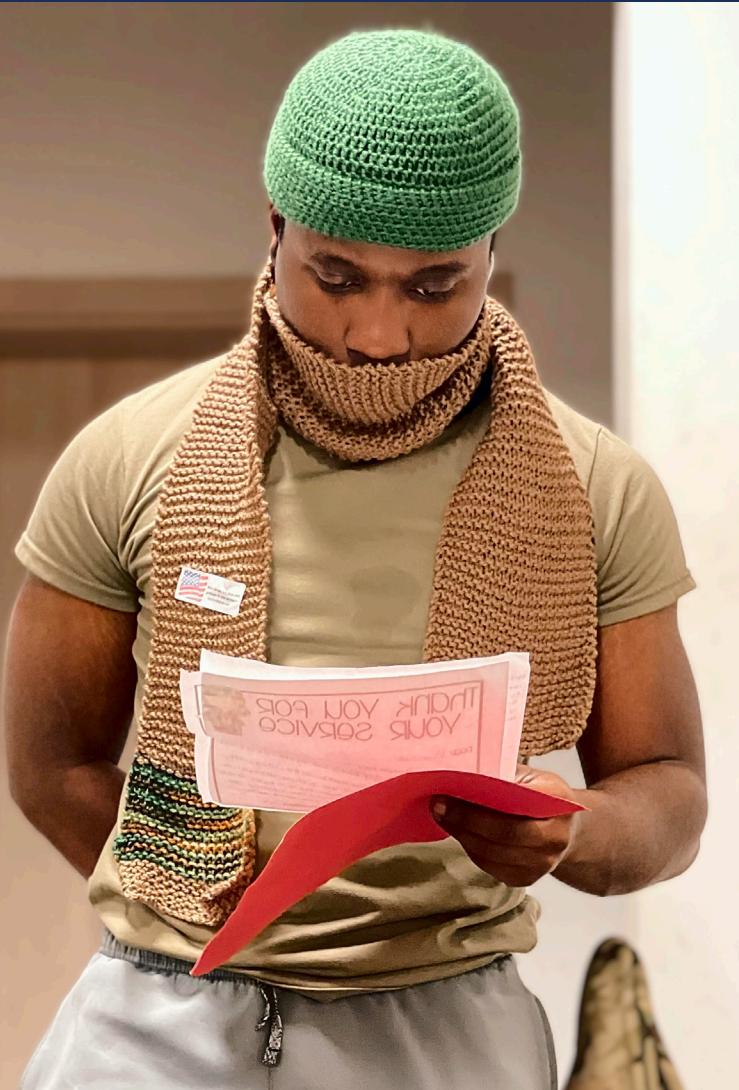
Letter Writing & Notes of Gratitude

Letters and notes of thanks are the most cherished part of Operation Gratitude Care Packages.

Encouraging words from you would be an important part of lifting the spirits of service members during a tough deployment or difficult training. Thank you for volunteering to write letters of appreciation for Deployed Troops, First Responders, Recruit Graduates, Veterans, and Wounded Heroes and their Caregivers.



The following guidelines will help you create letters and notes that will touch the heart of each person who receives an Operation Gratitude signature Care Package:



Address letters to the following:

- ★ Dear Service Member
- ★ Dear First Responder
- ★ Dear Veteran
- ★ Dear Wounded Heroes

Express your thanks for their selfless service to the community.

These letters will be sent to Military and First Responders across the nation, so please refrain from mentioning your specific community.

More Letter Writing Tips

Refrain from including contact or distinguishing information for anyone under the age of 18.

This includes last your name, home or email address, phone numbers, school information, and social media usernames.

If you are over 18, you may include your contact information so the letter recipient can reply.

Recipients are not required to write back.

Keep messages positive.

Express gratitude for their service, sharing hopeful messages, well wishes, and positive thoughts.

Prayers are welcome, however please avoid excessive religious comments.

Share general information about yourself, family, hobbies, work, school, pets, travel, interests, etc.

Abstain from writing about violence, killing, illness, injury, death, and dying, etc.

Avoid all mention of politics.

Can't find the words?

Consider drawing or painting a picture instead. If you include artwork from a child, please add their age to the drawing.

Refrain from using glitter or confetti, please!

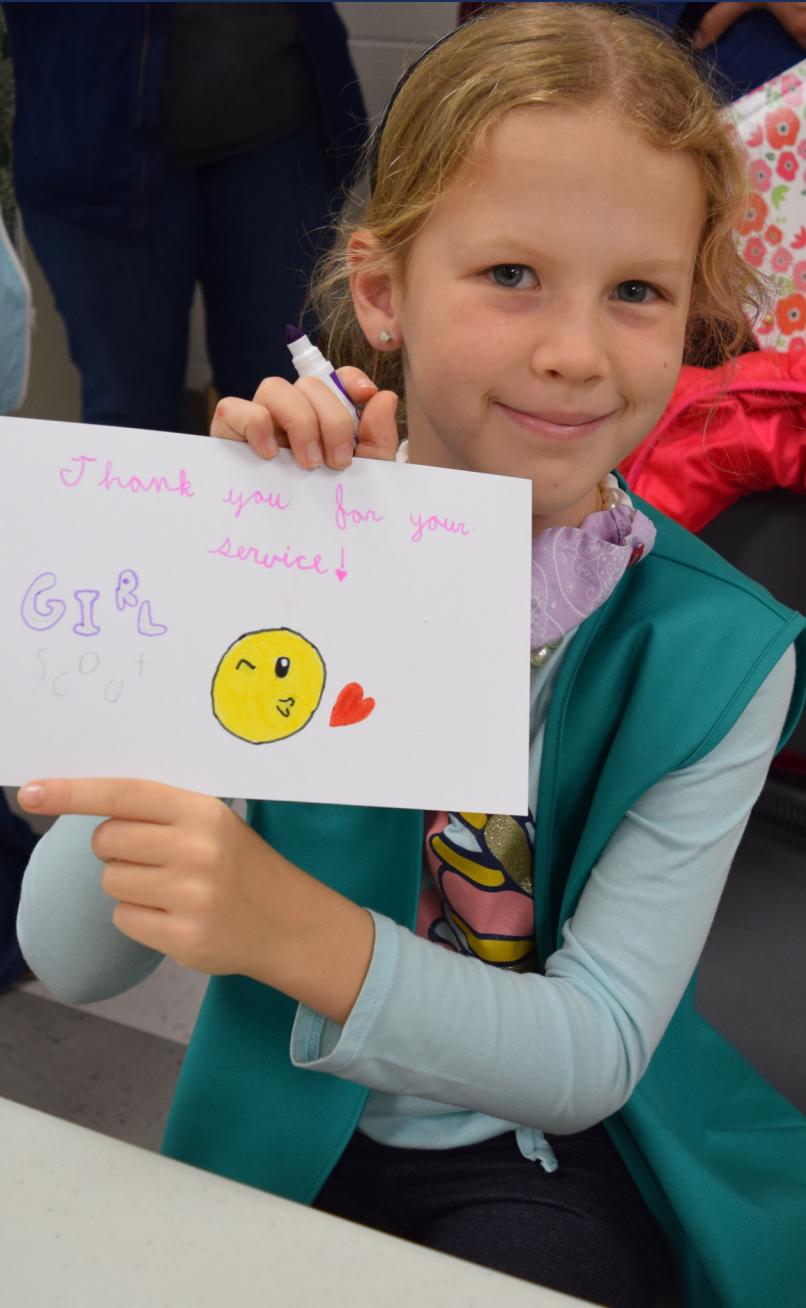
Please do not put your letters in individual envelopes.

All letters will go through a screening process and the envelopes slow that down significantly.



Letter Writing Guidelines for Teachers and Students

Operation Gratitude always loves to get letters and notes from teachers and students for our troops and First Responders. And we also encourage drawings and artwork to include in Care Packages as well, so break out the markers, paints, and crayons!



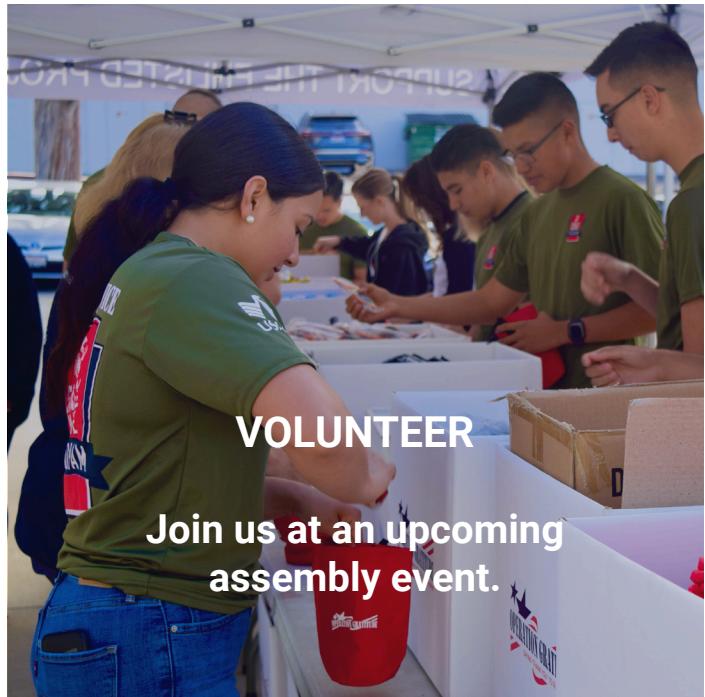
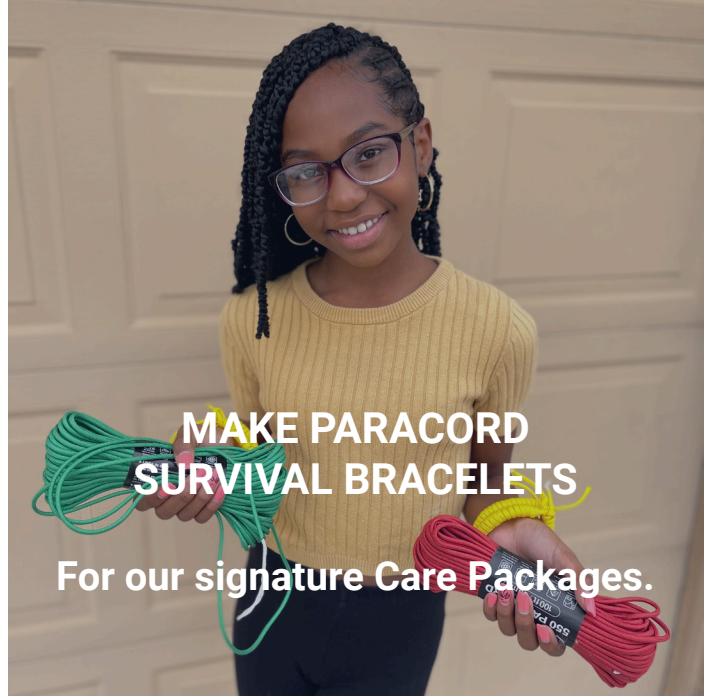
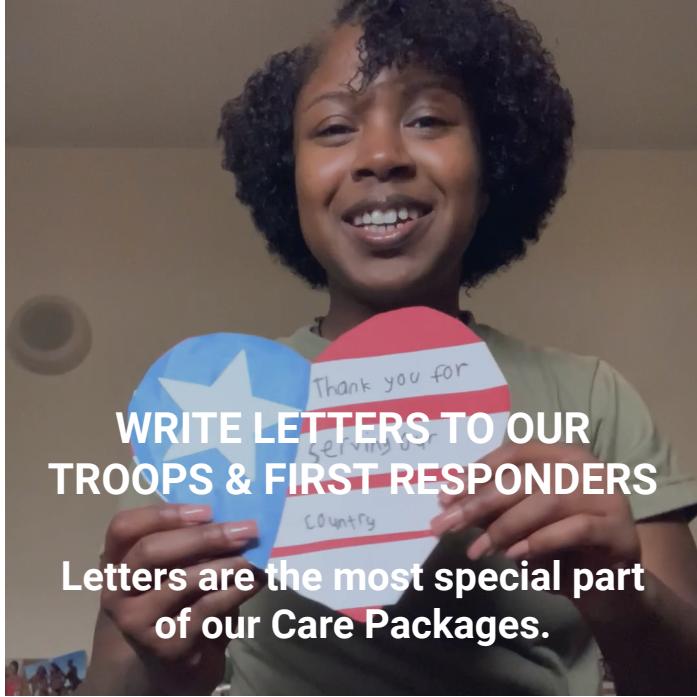
The guidelines are the same as previously stated, but keep in mind...

- ★ These letters will be sent to Military and First Responders across the nation, so please refrain from mentioning your specific community.
- ★ Keep your message positive.
- ★ Don't include contact or distinguishing information for anyone under the age of 18.
- ★ If you are over 18, you may include your contact information so the letter recipient can reply, but they are not required to write back.
- ★ Please do not put your letters or drawings in individual envelopes.





More Ways To Get Involved!



For more information about participating in Operation Gratitude's Letter Writing Program, visit:
OperationGratitude.com/volunteer/letters



Thank you for generously volunteering your time and effort to show gratitude for everyone who raises their hands to serve.

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