

# Did You Know...?

Packages From Home has been sending comfort packages to deployed US Military since 2004.

Packages From Home has been assisting veterans who are in transition, homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless since 2012, via their Packages For Hope program.

Packages From Home has recently expanded their mission to include Military Working Dogs. Story right -->

The Hearts To Heroes Ride coming up on February 27 gives you the opportunity to support these Packages From Home missions. {Details are in our calendar.}

You can receive extra raffle tickets at the H2H event for bringing in items. See the 'wish lists' shown here.

More extensive lists are available at the Packages From Home website.

♥ H2H ♥ H2H ♥ H2H ♥ H2H ♥

These are currently the most needed items!

This week's **Packages From Home** 'Hot List':

Food Items:

- Single Drink Mix, Pop Tarts
- PB Cracker packs (6 crackers to a pack)
- Saltines (4 sleeves to a box)
- Sunflower Seeds, Hot chocolate
- Tea bags (be sure they're individually wrapped)

Hygiene Items:

- Toilet Paper, Dental floss/dental picks
- Baby wipes (60-70 per pack)

Returning soldiers are not allowed to drive for the first 48 hours after their return. Let's get them some gift cards (\$10) to places like Subway, McDonalds, Papa John's, Dominoes, Pizza Hut who either deliver or are on every corner so that those without families have a treat on us to thank them for their service.

Most needed items for **Packages for Hope**: razors, shampoo, deodorant, lip balm, hand sanitizer, eye drops, t-shirts, and boxers.

Most needed items for **Bones From Home**: dog shampoo, collars, 4 ft. leashes, nail clippers, eye wash, dog wipes, treats made with real meat and made in the USA, kongs, rope pulls, collapsible dog bowls.

\*\*\*For the health and safety of our military, please check expiration dates on food items prior to donating. Items donated should not expire within the 3-month period following donation.

♥ H2H ♥ H2H ♥ H2H ♥ H2H ♥

If you would like to make a donation to Packages From Home, but are unable to attend this upcoming event, There are numerous locations where you can drop off items, depending on where you are in the Valley.

There are many ways to donate to Packages From Home, either as an individual or as a group. Read more by following this link.

And of course, financial donations are always helpful, to cover shipping costs. You can also purchase items from their online store. Yes, good old-fashioned checks are also welcome. They can be made out & mailed to Packages From Home 1201 S 7th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85007.



## BONES FROM HOME

Packages From Home's mission is to send care and comfort packages to deployed American military heroes who are stationed in active duty theaters around the world, as well as to facilitate activities that elevate morale of all veterans.

We are proud to extend our current program to include our Military Working Dogs (MWD). There are over 2700 Military Working Dogs active worldwide. Dogs smell 10,000 to 100,000 times more clearly than humans because the animals are estimated to have 50 times more olfactory receptors in their noses than humans do, and the area of the brain that deciphers smells is 40 times larger in dogs than in humans.

The value of MWDs in detecting materials used in IEDs and weapons saves lives of our troops and innocent civilians.

Unfortunately, the value of MWDs and their handlers is well known, and they are too often specifically targeted by the enemy.

To help, please consider donating items and financial support to make sure each packages can be mailed to our four-legged heroes.

ITEMS THAT CAN BE DONATED:

- Canine ear cleaner
- Eye wash
- Canine bath wipes
- Grooming tools (brushes, combs, nail clippers)
- Paw pad cream
- Canine shampoo (mild, not heavily fragrances, with an oatmeal base, for dry/sensitive skin)
- 4 ft or 6 ft leashes & collars strong enough to hold a 70+# dog
- Toys Must be a very durable, tough brand, such as Kong or Dogzilla
- Antiseptic spray
- Collapsible dog water bowl
- One-pound bags of dry grain-free dog food
- High Protein dog treats
- Milk bones
- Corn huskers Lotion

DO NOT DONATE the following items

*as they are NOT accepted by K-9 Units:*

- Rawhide bones
- Animal bones, pig ears
- Treats other than plain Milk bones
- Canned dog food
- Treats not in their original packaging
- Stuffed animals or cloth toys
- Do not send anything small enough to be swallowed by a 70+ pound dog
- Blankets or bedding
- No items made in China or containing pork products

If you know of someone serving with a K9 unit, please forward their address to us so we can get them a care package! Contact Jan Johnson.

For more information, please contact Packages From Home, Bones From Home Program at 602-253-0284 or visit our administrative office at 1201 S. 7th Ave., #50, Phoenix AZ 85007.

