



## Operation Support Our Troops-America *Case for Support 2020*

### **Statement of Mission**

*The mission of Operation Support Our Troops-America is to support the morale and well-being of American military forces by providing comfort, resources, and education to them and their families both while they are deployed in harm's way and after their return.*

### **Statement of Vision**

*We endeavor to demonstrate to all members of the military that the people of the United States respect and value their sacrifice. This outreach, not just from families and friends, but thousands of people the troops don't even know, helps to support them and their families in their commitment to our country, both on the battlefield and when they return home.*

### **Our Programs**

Comfort and care packages sent to active duty service members deployed in harm's way. For these military members we send packages filled with everyday necessities including hygiene products and snack items. Most items sent are donated to us, and we raise the funds to cover the cost of postage.

The Veterans Assistance program helps veterans by providing one-time grants to help with expenses in a veteran's time of need to pursue the improvement of their lives, and their families. Typical expenses covered are rent, utilities and car repairs.

G.I. Yoga is modified yoga free to veterans and their families. The practice of yoga helps participants release stress, sleep better, ease aches and pains, and improve overall health.

Leap of Faith is a three-day grief seminar for Gold Star families, in this seminar a full day is spent on how to "stay in the river of life" and two days of activities. Family members experience a tandem parachute jump with either an active duty or veteran parachute jumper or participate in dolphin or equine therapy, depending on the location of the seminar.

### **Program Services - 2019**

Perhaps the best gauge of our fundraising success is the impact of the proceeds on the programs of OSOT-America. In 2019, donations:

- Provided financial grants to veterans in need, offering a hand up – not a handout, helping 94 veterans with \$131,866 in financial grants through our Veterans Assistance Program.
- Shipped over 4,400 comfort packages (90,972 pounds) of items to serve approximately 44,000 troops. During the holiday season 8,000 Christmas stockings were shipped with total shipping costs at \$122,097.
- Conducted two Leap of Faith Seminars to help Families of the Fallen service members learn grief coping skills with 64 participants at a cost of \$726 per person.
- G.I. Yoga has conducted five weekly classes at four DuPage County, IL locations per week.

### **Since Inception:**

OSOT-America has had an average program/admin ratio of 90%. This means that 90¢ of every dollar donated goes directly to support the programs of OSOT-America.

### **Conclusion**

**Operation Support Our Troops-America is entering its 18<sup>th</sup> year of operations while our country faces growing threats around the world. By engaging our sponsors and donors, being good stewards of our resources, and actively participating in the military and veteran community we continue to be able to meet these needs.**

*Operation Support Our Troops-America consistently receives the highest ratings from charity evaluators for our transparency, program effectiveness and utilization of resources. You can be sure your donation is being put to good use.*



*Providing Comfort and Care at Home and Away*

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[OSOTAmerica.org](http://OSOTAmerica.org)