



Operation: Military Kids - OMK

HERO PACKS

HAND WRITTEN APPRECIATION LETTERS

The handwritten notes of encouragement and thanks are for the military youth receiving Hero Packs. Your group can use patriotic stationary or make your own cards/letters.

The goal is to have at least one letter in each Hero Pack, but feel free to do more letters if you wish. Remember the most important thing is to write from your heart. Think about what a civilian youth may say to a military youth if they were to talk in person. Share some of your favorite experiences and pastimes.

A sample letter is below to give you an idea of what to write.

Important Guidelines:

- Keep it positive
- Keep it politically neutral
- Use “family member” or “loved one” rather than “parent” (many children have siblings deployed)
- No personal information (last name, phone numbers, email, etc.)
- Have fun and thank our every day heroes
- Do not tell the military youth how bad you think their situation is or how sorry you may feel for them
- Thank the youth for their sacrifices that they are making
- Remind the military youth that they are heroes, too

SAMPLE LETTER TO A MILITARY CHILD

To a Hero,

I want you to know how much I appreciate all the sacrifices you are making while your family member is gone. I made this Hero Pack for you because you are one of my heroes. You and your family are heroes for making such a big contribution to our country. I hope you can use some of the items in this backpack to have fun and keep in contact with your loved one while they are gone.

Thanks for being a hero and for supporting our country!