LETTER DETAILS

**DEPLOYED TROOP**  
currently overseas in harm’s way

**VETERAN**  
served our country in the past

**NEW RECRUIT**  
just completed Boot Camp and has sworn to serve for the next 4 or more years

**FIRST RESPONDER**  
a firefighter, paramedic, or member of law enforcement

* Letters are accepted year-round.
* We have a special need for letters specifically written to New Recruits, Veterans, and First Responders.
* Start with a generic salutation, such as “Dear Hero” or “Dear Brave One.”
* Express your thanks for their selfless service.
* Avoid politics completely and religion in excess; however, saying you will pray for them is wonderful.
* Share a little about yourself: Family, Hobbies, Work, School, Pets, Travel, etc.
* Talk about life and interests: Sports, Weather, Music, Movies, Food, Books, etc.
* Please do not include a date or year on your letter.
* Adults: Include your contact information (mail or email) so the letter recipient can reply.*(Recipients may or may not write back; please do not be disappointed if you do not receive a response.)*
* Children’s Letters: Include first names only and do not include addresses (an adult’s address can be used).
* Can’t find the words? Consider drawing or painting a picture instead; please add a note to kids’ drawings with their age.
* No glitter or confetti please!
* Do not put your individual cards or letters in envelopes—they are not needed and create a burden for our letter screeners.
* Please don’t date your letters, sometimes it can take up to a few months for our Care Packages to be received after they are sent.