

## 2011 Gift of Caring Partners



**Operation Gratitude**, based in Van Nuys, seeks to lift morale and put smiles on faces by sending care packages addressed to individual soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines deployed around the world. Through collection drives, letter writing campaigns and donations of funds for shipping expenses, Operation Gratitude provides civilians anywhere in America a way to express their respect and appreciation to the men and women of the U.S. Military in an active, hands-on manner. Operation Gratitude care packages contain food, hygiene products, entertainment items and personal letters of appreciation, and, of course, Girl Scout cookies donated through GSGLA's Gift of Caring program. Operation Gratitude sent over 100,000 care packages to soldiers in 2010.



**Bob Hope Hollywood USO at LAX** provides comfort and a safe haven to American troops and their families traveling through LAX to and from overseas and stateside assignments. Military personal can enjoy computer access, showers, recreation areas, a library, a theater with wide-screen TVs and a family room. The USO at LAX can comfortably accommodate 25-30 troops at a time. Girl Scout cookies donated through GSGLA's Gift of Caring program are available as a special treat for servicemen and women in the USO's cafeteria.



**Los Angeles Regional Food Bank** mobilizes resources to fight hunger in our communities. The food bank's goal is that no one go hungry in Los Angeles county. The food bank sources and acquires food and other products and distributes them to needy people through charitable agencies or directly through programs. In addition, the organization conducts hunger education and awareness campaigns and advocates for public policies that alleviate hunger. Girl Scout cookies distributed through GSGLA's Gift of Caring program are distributed to food pantries and non-profit organizations throughout GSGLA's service areas including Santa Clarita Valley Food Pantry, Food Net San Gabriel Valley, Los Angeles Mission and over 200 other agencies.



**Goodwill** enhances the dignity and quality of life of individuals, families and communities by eliminating barriers to opportunity and helping people in need reach their fullest potential through the power of work. The organization seeks to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities or other disadvantages by providing education, training and job opportunities to assist them in

becoming more self-sufficient and productive members of society. Girl Scout cookies are utilized at Goodwill's Worksource & Job Service Centers who provide mentoring, counseling and educational program for at-risk youth in five LA locations. These services are meant to keep kids in school, focused and on track with their lives.



**Blue Star Mothers** is an organization comprised of mothers who now have, or have had, children honorably serving in the military. The organization's mission is to support Veterans in a tangible thoughtful way. BSM members volunteer their time to visit service personnel in VA hospitals during long rehabilitative procedures. Members also commit to attend the military funeral for all local fallen heroes. Cookies donated through GSGLA's Gift of Caring program will be sent to United State's military personal in care packages and delivered to those facing long hospital stays to brighten the soldier's day.

***All Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Gift of Caring Partners are registered 501(c)3 non-profit organizations.***