

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project 2010 Annual Report



*"The nation which forgets its
defenders will be itself forgotten."
- Calvin Coolidge*

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Our Mission

The Landstuhl Hospital Care Project (LHCP) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides comfort and care items for military members who become sick, injured, or wounded from service in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Kuwait and South East Asia. Donated items are distributed to military patients at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) in Germany, the largest American military hospital outside the U. S., and to Combat Support Hospitals (CSH) in Afghanistan and Iraq. Service members wounded in combat often arrive at the CSH and LRMC with no clothing and require long hospitalization. The purpose of the program is to enhance the morale and welfare of the wounded by contributing quality of life items such as clothing, personal care items, blankets, DVDs, games, and electronics for entertainment during hospitalization. In addition, LHCP supports several Veterans Administration hospitals stateside by donating clothing items to enhance the morale and welfare of our veterans. LHCP also provides a food coupon collection and distribution service for use by military members and their families at military commissaries in Germany, Italy, Japan, and many other countries.

Our “Stitches of Love” sewing, knitting, and crocheting group consists of dozens of women throughout the U. S. and Germany who craft much-in demand drawstring medicine bags that are shipped to CSHs in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and South East Asia. They also hand-craft travel pillows, pillow cases, comfort pillows, quilts, afghans, fleece blankets, litter blankets, and cast socks that go to LRMC and CSHs.

Each month, chaplains at LRMC and medical personnel from the CSHs identify what their patients need. LHCP sends only those items that have been requested. Each LHCP shipment is sent in honor of a military member who has made the ultimate sacrifice and lost his or her life in service to our country. Hospital staff report that when patients learn their service members are remembered back home, spirits are lifted. As one nurse wrote in an e-mail, *“It’s a reminder that what we do is not in vain. It means a lot to the guys that are back there recovering. It helps them to know they are not alone.”*

An email from a Sergeant deployed to a hospital in Iraq drives home why LHCP exists:

“What your group (LHCP) is doing is great things. The soldiers that come in our hospital are fresh off the battlefield. Many don’t have a shred of clothing on their back by the time they arrive. (Clothing is cut off to assess and treat wounds.) By providing small comforts it makes the transition from soldier to patient a little easier. I know many of the brave soldiers that have benefited from your program cannot say thank you, but for all of them I will. Again thank you”

Letter from the President

In 2010, as U.S. military deployed numbers diminished, we at LHCP found ourselves increasing the number of pounds and shipments to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and combat medical facilities across the Middle East.

We also recognized that as our units returned home, they found themselves wondering what to do with the overload of supplies and clothing they still had from donations. This does not mean that our units do not need support, it means that LHCP just needs to be more streamlined in our shipments. The email below is from a Colonel in Afghanistan.

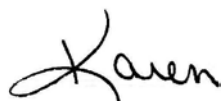
Regarding the "adopt a troop" plan, the members of my unit and myself have MORE than enough supplies, snacks, toiletries, clothing items, etc. than we could use in a year! It is sad to say, but much of it goes unused. We give it to the chaplains who have more than they need. I have a much better idea, I think. There is an organization called the Landstuhl Hospital Care Project, run by a group of citizens in Virginia. They are in constant contact with our Forward Surgical Team, all deployed Combat Support Hospitals, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Walter Reed, and others. When a soldier becomes injured on the battlefield, they are immediately taken by helicopter to us. We cut his clothing off, operate on him, and evacuate him out to Bagram Airfield. They may do further surgery before sending him to Germany. This continues until he is home, and happens in a matter of hours to a few days. His personal effects are sent from Afghanistan, but he may not see his belongings for several weeks. This is where the LH Care Project comes in. We give him brand new clothing, toiletries, blankets, personal letters from US citizens, etc. right here in the FST before he gets on the helicopter for BAF. When we run low on items, our representative notifies the LHCP folks in Virginia, and they send us what we need.

The year 2010 saw us filling units' urgent wish lists for basic care items as well as medical supplies. LHCP members sent hundreds of letters through our Words of Inspiration Campaign. At Christmas, our Stitches of Love group sent beautiful hand made Christmas stockings. We supported wounded and ill troops medivaced to LRMHC. In 2010, LRMHC received a total of 10,000 American and coalition patients from Iraq and Afghanistan; the highest since 2004. We worked 30 days unpacking, sorting, and stocking shelves. We made Deployed Warrior Medical Management Center (DWMMC) deliveries, along with patient and staff deliveries, and participated with PTSD and Combat Stress dinners. We helped Chaplains by escorting weekend patient tours.

As we move into 2011, we know that the needs of our deployed troops will continue, and that LHCP and America will remain vigilant in supporting them.

So many military members and families are touched by LHCP as we accomplish our mission to enhance the morale and welfare of the wounded by contributing quality of life items as they recover so far from home.

As we finish our 6th year of service, it is again my pleasure to share this overview of highlights and significant accomplishments during the past year. You will read about the Stitches of Love program, our Coupon Clipping program, and thank you letters from deployed and wounded troops. We also share some of our unit awards and our annual trip to Arlington.



Karen Grimord
Founder & President



Staff in Afghanistan receiving LHCP shipment

Our Organization

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project is a non-profit organization incorporated in the state of Virginia. LHCP has received an advanced ruling of eligibility for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code effective May 26, 2005. The Directors who form our Board live in the states of Virginia, Alabama, North Carolina, and Georgia. You may learn more about them by clicking on the Contact Us page at www.landstuhlhospitalcareproject.org.

We also have formed a Yahoo group to better enable us to distribute current information to our members. The LHCP Yahoo group has over 120 supporters from all over the United States, Canada, and Europe.

LHCP provides support to our troops in three main ways, donations (i.e., t-shirts, sweat pants, phone cards) to our troops in the military hospitals, handmade pillows and blankets through our Stitches of Love program, and support for military families through our coupon collecting. Many different groups support our efforts by providing donations of goods as well as monetary donations. Three main groups who support our efforts are:

- Youth and Scout Groups
- Corporate sponsors and their employees
- LHCP Yahoo group

Accomplishments



Support for our Troops

LHCP had 584 sponsors donate over 66,000 items from 44 states, Washington D.C., APO/AFO locations and 4 countries including France, Germany, Israel, and England. Donated items to LHCP were distributed to military patients at LRMC, or were sent to CSHs. The items we send have been put on the chaplains' and hospital personnel wish list. A list of items that are requested can be found on our website and this list is updated monthly. In 2010, LHCP supported over 66,105 of our wounded service men and women through the generosity of our Sponsors. LHCP supplied our troops with items ranging from t-shirts to clogs to phone cards. Below are samples of items sent in 2010 for direct support of our wounded warriors:

4,082 t-shirts, boxer/briefs, shorts, PJs
5,256 flip flops, clogs, sandals, sneakers
2,064 sweat pants and sweat shirts
986 winter jackets
1,464 duffle bags and back packs
1,261 socks

For morale, we shipped over 479 DVDs; 413 magazines; and 375 encouragement cards and letters to LRMC and overseas units. We also shipped 2,290 phone cards totaling 278,544 minutes to our wounded service men and women. LHCP also shipped celebration decorations for Christmas, Mardi Gras and Cinco de Mayo to help boost morale. LHCP also shipped over 872 electronic games, DVD players, footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, and other gaming items.

In total, 1,145 boxes weighing 38,131 pounds were mailed in 2010 to our contacts located in Germany, Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and South East Asia.



LHCP provided support for the field hospitals and staff by sending requested items to enhance patient care. Items, such as thermal blankets and travel pillows are used to provide comfort to the wounded during transfers between hospital facilities. To give this support, we shipped the following in 2010:

- Over 2,255 Twin Bed Sheets and Pillowcases
- 1,863 Travel Pillows
- 1,781 Towels and Wash Cloths
- 697 Thermal Blankets
- 388 Fleece Blankets and Throws
- 747 Hospital Gowns
- 242 Scrub Tops, Bottoms and Caps
- Over 2,240 Medical Supplies and Equipment

When requested, LHCP has also provided a variety of personal hygiene supplies, food, and snack items to units. LHCP attempted to fill all requests. The majority of these items are paid for with funds from our cash donations. In 2010 we sent:

- Over 12,345 Food and Snack Items
- 2,823 Toothbrushes
- 3,450 Toothpastes
- 1,802 Shave Cream or Gel
- 993 Lip Balm and Chap Sticks
- 2,179 Razors
- 303 Nail Clippers
- Over 9,319 Other Personal Hygiene Items

Stitches of Love

Stitches of Love (SoL) is a group of LHCP members who sew, knit, and crochet items for the troops. They make drawstring medicine bags, travel and twin pillowcases, comfort pillows, scrub caps, fleece blankets, and quilts. This group spends countless hours creating these homemade items for our troops.

Our need for these items continues to grow and every member of the SoL group is an important part of the LHCP organization. The following list shows the totals of a few of the items the SoL group contributed in 2010:

- 189 Quilts
- 325 Medicine Bags
- 388 Fleece Blankets
- 11 Crocheted and Knitted Afghans
- 516 Twin and Travel Pillow Cases
- 636 Christmas Stockings
- 54 Scrub Caps
- 891 Comfort Pillows
- 210 Fleece Scarves and Knitted Hats





Krystal Alexander, Coupon Coordinator

Coupons

LHCP collects and ships clipped coupons for families at military installations to use at the commissary. Troop and families are able to use grocery coupons that are up to six months expired. In 2010, LHCP shipped **328,000** coupons to 52 commissaries in 12 countries. The weight of the coupons totaled 268 pounds. LHCP estimates that 32,800 troop and families were able to use these coupons. Coupons were sent to military installations in the following countries:

Country	Number Commissaries	Number Shipped	Weight Shipped (lbs)
The Azores	1	10,000	8.3
Belgium	1	8,000	6.9
Germany	11	68,000	56.5
Guam	2	12,000	10.1
Italy	3	14,000	11.6
Japan	14	96,000	76.9
Korea	11	56,000	45.0
Netherlands	1	10,000	7.5
Saudi Arabia	1	4,000	3.5
Spain	1	6,000	4.8
Turkey	2	16,000	13.6
United Kingdom	4	28,000	23.3
Totals	52	328,000	268



2010 Annual Youth and Scout Project of the Year Award

Mabank Independent School District

Each year youth and scout groups from all over the United States hold fundraisers and in-kind donation drives for our wounded troops. For 2010, the Youth and Scout Project of the Year was awarded to Mabank Independent School District of Mabank, Texas.

The students raised \$1,116 dollars for LHCP through a Penny Drive. Each school competed against each other by placing jars to collect pennies and other monetary denominations. The project was fun and rewarding for all.

Troop Thanks

LHCP has received continued notes of thanks from the troops and chaplains that we serve. Here are just a few notes:

FROM: The Staff of the Camp Zama Commissary
TO: Ms. Alexander (LHCP Coupon Coordinator)
SUBJECT: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!!

On behalf of the entire Camp Zama Commissary Staff, I would like to extend to you the warmest of THANK YOU for your support of our most valued National Treasure, The Men and Women of the American Armed Forces.

The time spent cutting coupons and mailing them here to the Camp Zama Commissary is priceless. We look forward to the mailing coming in every day to see your letters and all the wonderful coupons you have provided. At the entrance of the commissary we have a coupon center stuffed with all the coupons you have sent. Our store personnel bag your coupons and the Baggers provide them to our customers as they leave the commissary. The coupons are also hung on the shelves here in the commissary for additional access.

Please keep the coupons coming; you are making a difference for the troops and their families serving here in Japan!

Yoko Banko
Store Manger
Camp Zama Commissary

Troop Thanks (cont.)

We are in receipt of beautiful handmade stockings which were obviously lovingly crafted by people of your organization. I have sent cards and a thank you letter along with the attempt to send multiple pictures of your stockings hung all over the hospital. We adore them. They were so very thoughtful and literally “made” our Christmas! Christmas Day every staff member and patient will be given a stocking. This is after they have been displayed for weeks. These stockings are so precious I am MOST certain they will be sent home for future Christmases. I already know the one I will be sending home and every year I pull it out I will remember my Christmas in Afghanistan and the thoughtfulness of the people of the Landstuhl Hospital Care Project. I know everyone else is doing the same. The caliber and quality of these stockings dictate they be cherished. If you would like us to send them back, we can certainly do that with most of the stockings we have distributed a few already to our patients and as you know, they are wounded.

Fondly,
Captain, Nurse Corps, USN



Our Dear Friends

We are so appreciative of your many, many gifts and once again our soldiers, marines, airmen, and sailors of the United States and fellow Coalition and Special Forces, and the nurses, doctors, and corpsmen need and love everything. The razors will be used to shave chests for EKG analysis. The q-tips are always appreciated by all and the Gray Tee shirts will be worn by our wounded. Wanted to tell you that the clogs went like hot cakes.

I looked up Okabashi and realized they are a family-owned, American company.

Wonderful support for our troops and patients.

Please pass on our humble regards to them and everyone that helps out.

It makes a huge difference.

Tx
Most Sincerely, Captain Nurse Corps, United States Navy



I wanted to personally thank you for making a positive lasting impact on the xxst CSH here in southern Afghanistan. Your project donations have bridged the gap for us and have provided many “creature comforts” to our wounded. Please know that we appreciate you more than you realize.

Our CSH’s tour is about to come to an end. Please send any future donations to xxth CSH who will replace us here. The contact person will be xx.

Thanks again and Happy Holidays



Financial Report

Statement of Financial Position: Year Ended December 31, 2010

Assets

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings Cash in bank – operating	\$148,406
Total Assets	\$148,406

Liabilities and Equity

Equity	
Unrestricted (Retained Earnings)	\$47,837
Reserve	60,000
Net Income	40,569
Total Equity	\$148,406
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$148,406

Statement of Activities

Income

Donations	\$62,381
Donations – CFC	37,458
Donations – Click and Pledge	2,988
Donations – Corporate	85,000
Other Income	141
Special Projects Income	1,609
Total Income	\$189,577

Program Expenses

Bedding	\$10,844
Clothing	58,572
Electronics	23,850
Freight	1,629
Groceries	349
LHCP Special Projects	82
LRMC Mission Support	1,916
Medical Supplies	4,494
MWR	2,603
Personal Care	5,496
Postage – Coupons	721
Postage – Shipments	22,269
Shipping Supplies	4,070
Total Program Expenses	\$136,895

Administrative Expenses

Advertising	\$4,490
Fees	314
Fees – Legal, Special	3,696
Office Equipment	1,329
Office Supplies	386
Postage Administrative	410
Sales Tax	60
Telephone	1,299
Website	129
Total Administrative Expenses	\$12,113

Total Expenses **\$149,008**

Net Income **\$ 40,569**

Summary of Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Income Tax Status

The organization qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and; therefore, has no provisions for federal or state income taxes.

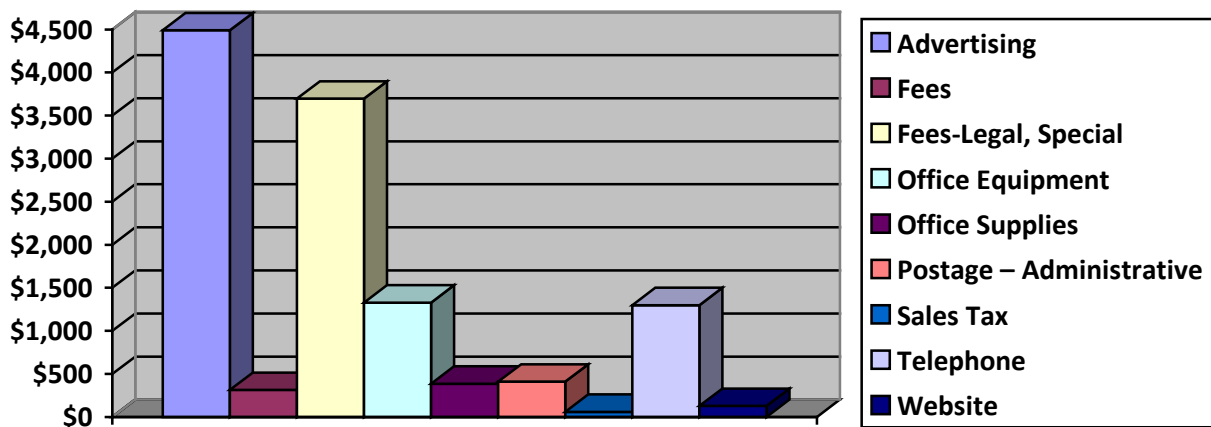
Non-Cash Contributions

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project received donated goods with a Fair Market value of \$137,233. These goods consisted of donated books and publications, clothing and household goods, food, drugs and medical supplies, and electronics. All donated items were distributed to recipients within 30 days.

Administration Costs

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project is a 100% volunteer organization with no paid staff, officers, or directors. The officers and directors are committed to a goal of keeping all administration cost to 10% or less, ensuring that the overwhelming majority of our resources go towards those service men and women supported through our efforts. For 2010 our administrative costs were 6% with the largest portion of the cost were for advertising and legal and special fees. See Figure 1.

Other administration expenses for 2010 include filing and service fees to register LHCP in many states as a non-profit. All of the other administration costs are generally monthly or quarterly expenses, such as the printing and mailing of our newsletter.



LHCP Administrative Costs

Responsible Stewardship

LHCP manages its funds responsibly and prudently. LHCP is committed to the responsible use of its assets; to provide accurate, complete and objective information; to respect the confidentiality of financial and other information; to act in good faith and exercise due care in all transactions; to comply with all rules and regulations; and to proactively promote ethical behavior. This includes the following considerations:

- ❖ LHCP does not accumulate operating funds excessively and its operating and administrative costs are prudently managed.
- ❖ Board members and volunteers are expected to protect and maintain confidentiality regarding LHCP's property; including cash, equipment, records, and beneficiary information.
- ❖ All financial reports are factually accurate and complete in all material respects.

LHCP participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). LHCP advertised for the CFC in the Washington DC newspaper, in 2010 for the 2009-2010 campaign. The largest administrative costs were for Legal and Special fees including the accounting fees for an independent third-party accountant to audit our financial records annually to ensure accuracy. This also includes fees paid to prepare the annual IRS Form 990 which reports the financial activities of LHCP. The Board considers this audit report important for the transparency of our organization's records. Other administrative legal and special fees for 2010 include filing and service fees to register LHCP in many states as a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

Certification and Recognition

In 2008 - 2010, Landstuhl Hospital Care Project was approved as a ***2008 Combined Federal Campaign*** charity. The CFC Designation Code is 12282.

In 2008 - 2010, Landstuhl Hospital Care Project became a federation member of the ***Military, Veterans and Patriotic Service Organizations of America***.

In 2008, LHCP became a member in good standing and continued through 2009 and 2010 in good standing with the Independent Charities of America (ICA) and Local Independent Charities of America (LICA) earning the designation as ***"Best in America Certified by Independent Charities of America."***

Combined Federal Campaign Program

Qualified 2010



LHCP CFC designation code is 12282

Charities approved to receive funds through the CFC are required to submit to extensive review of their financial and governance practices prior to acceptance. This eligibility review has helped set standards for participation in giving initiatives that transcend the community.

Independent Charities of America “Best in America” Seal of Excellence October 2010



The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence is awarded to the members of Independent Charities of America and Local Independent Charities of America that have, upon rigorous independent review, been able to certify, document, and demonstrate on an annual basis that they meet the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. These standards include those required by the US Government for inclusion in the CFC, probably the most exclusive fund drive in the world. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in the United States today, it is estimated that fewer than 50,000, or 5 percent, meet or exceed these standards, and, of those, fewer than 2,000 have been awarded this Seal.

Directors and Officers



**Karen Grimord
Founder and President**



**Bradney E. Scott
Senior Vice President**



**Maria Waddell
VP – Communications**



**Sharon Buck
Treasurer**



***Cindy Donohoe
Director, Policy and Procedures***

Fundraising



Anna Bustamante (pictured above), Chair of Kinesiology and Health credits students at Palo Alto College with the success of the drive—
“We hope this donation helps. We could not have made it happen without our students!”

Fundraising across the country has been a challenge. We are thankful that we have both companies and individuals who sponsor fundraising events to support LHCP. Fundraising events collect cash and items, sometimes around a theme. For example the Post 189 American Legion Riders from Norwich, NY raised \$3,000 for the cause. Palo Alto College, San Antonio, TX Kinesiology & Health Department and the Veterans Affairs Department held a DVD drive. The drive, which concluded on Veterans Day, netted 293 DVDs for our soldiers. We can't list all of the events, but want to thank all of our fundraisers.

Corporate and Civic Sponsors

A.L.R. Post 189 Norwich

Adams County PA Association of School Retirees

American Legion Auxiliary #100

American Legion Auxiliary #283

American Legion Auxiliary #290

American Legion Auxiliary 135

American Legion Auxiliary 1379

American Legion Auxiliary Banner Unit 109

American Legion Auxiliary Botts-Payne-Murphy Unit 364

American Legion Auxiliary Dept of Illinois

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Inc.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #66 Parker-Jose-Stockwell

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 132

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 151

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 290

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 808

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 852

American Legion Auxiliary Vernon McCune Unit 132

American Legion Auxiliary Whitehouse Unit 384

Norwich, NY

Biglerville, PA

Cherryville, NC

Maspeth, NY

Stafford, VA

Naples, FL

Stamford, NY

Benson, NC

Woodbridge, VA

Bloomington, IL

Richmond, VA

Athelstane, WI

Plymouth TWP, MI

Springfield, SD

Farmville, NC

Stafford, VA

Belmont, NY

Boyers, PA

Toledo, OH

Whitehouse, OH

American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 3
American Legion Post 290
American Society of Military Comptrollers
Anonymous - Network for Good
BAE Matching Gifts Program
BAE Systems
BAE Systems Employees
BAE Systems Matching Gifts Program
Bank of New York Mellon Community Partnership
Barboursville Chapter National Society DAR
Barnes Jewish Hospital
Best Brands Corp.
Best Buy
Blue Star Mothers of Northern Virginia
Book Group at Good Samaritan United Methodist Church
Boy Scout Troop 415
Bullhead City Moose Lodge #1860 (Soldier Down)
Bullhead City Women of the Moose No 1842 (Soldier Down)
C&T Associates, Inc.
Centerville Presbyterian Church-Children
Chairman, Service for Veterans Committee
Chenango County American Legion Auxiliary
Cicero American Legion Ladies Auxiliary #787
Deb Knickerbocker, Ladies of Harley
Elk Rapids High School
Eastern Valley Chapter of American Ex-POWs
First American Bank
Fort Monmouth Officer Wives Club
Four Corners Blue Star Mothers
Granard Middle School
Hanson Peters NYE (HPN)
Keweenaw Detachment #1016 Marine Corps League
Knickerbocker Chapter, DAR
Ladies HOG
Lakes on Eldridge Bunco Group
Liverpool Pistol Club.
Loudoun Chapter UDC
Mabank Independent School District
Macoupin Military Support Group
Nam Knights of America Motorcycle Club Old Line Chapter
Nashau Medical Group
Network for Good
NewLife Industries, Inc.
Noreen Daly Nelly Custis Chapter NSDAR
Norwich American Legion Post 189
Pack 152 Cub Scouts and Troop 52 Boy Scouts (Operation Boxers)
Sam's Club Foundation (Soldier Down)
Screamin' Eagles Booster Club

Great Fall, MT
Stafford, VA
Beavercreek, OH
Bethesda, MD
Princeton, NJ
Mount Laurel, NJ
Mojave, CA
Princeton, NY
Princeton, NJ
Ona, WV
St. Louis, MO
Minnetonka, MN

Ashburn, VA
Edina, MN
Escalon, CA
Bullhead City, AZ
Bullhead City, AZ
Souderton, PA
Fremont, CA
Signal Mountain, TN
Norwich, NY
Cicero, NY
Shawano, WI
Elk Rapids, MI
Gilbert, AZ
Hudson, WI
Fort Monmouth, NJ
Flora Vista, NM
Gaffney, SC
IL
South Range, MI
NY
Shawano, WI
Houston, TX
Cicero, NY
Leesburg, VA
Mabank, TX
Carlinville, IL
Upper Marlboro, MD
NH
Bethesda, MD
Somerset, KY

Norwich, NY
Rapid City, SD
Bentonville, AR
FL

Seekers Sunday School Class, Memorial United Methodist Church
SJ Physician Services, Inc
Soldier Down
St. Paul Blue Star Mothers
St. Mary's Parrish Council Of Catholic Women
Standard Textile
Student Council Granard Middle School
Stuttgart Community Spouse's Club
The Cigar Think Tank's Cigars for Service Members Program and the
Pensacola Chapter DAR
The Ladies of JPB Lodge
The Nurses Station
Valley View Medical Center (Soldier Down)
Waverly First Presbyterian Church
Welcome Women Club of Paris TN
Wesclin Cud #3, Trenton Elementary
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Women of the ELCA Unit, Christ Lutheran Church

Elizabethtown, KY
Nashua, NH
Bullhead City, AZ
Woodbury, MN
Chester, MT
OH
Gaffney, SC
Germany
Orlando, FL and
Pensacola, FL
Foxboro, MA
Spencerport, NY
Ft Mohave, AZ
Waverly, NY
Paris, TN
Trenton, IL
Elmira, NY
Lake Elmo, MN

Honorees for 2010



December 2010

[Kevin M. Kryst](#)

Age 27

of West Bend, WI; assigned to the Marine Light-Attack Helicopter Squadron 267, Marine Aircraft Group 39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, I Marine Expeditionary Force Camp Pendleton, Calif.; died Dec. 18, 2006, from wounds sustained while conducting combat operations in Anbar Province, Iraq.



November 2010

[Nicholas S. Cook](#)

Age 19

of Hungry Horse, MT; assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, Camp Ederle, Italy; died March 7, 2010, in Dab Sar, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire.



October 2010

[Timothy L. Bowles](#)

Age 24

of Tucson, AZ was assigned to the 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska and died March 15, 2009, of wounds sustained when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device. He was a Tucson High graduate and was killed in Afghanistan.



September 2010

[Erin L. McLyman](#)

Age 26

of Federal Way, WA; assigned to the 296th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.; died March 13, 2010, in Balad, Iraq, of wounds sustained when enemy forces attacked her base with mortar fire.



August 2010

[Gregory Owens, Jr.](#)

Age 24

of Garland, TX; where he joined the Army in 2007. He was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 25th Field Artillery (Strike), 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, NY. SGT Owens died July 20, 2009, in Maydan Shahr, Afghanistan, from wounds sustained by an IED detonating near his vehicle followed by an attack from enemy forces using small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. Three others were killed in the attack.



July 2010

[Rafael Peralta](#)

Age 25

of San Diego, CA; assigned to 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Hawaii; killed Nov. 15, 2004, by enemy action in Anbar Province, Iraq.



June 2010

[Jeffery L. Hartley](#)

Age 25

of Hempstead, TX; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Benning, GA; died April 8, 2008 in Kharguliah, Iraq, of wounds sustained when his vehicle encountered an improvised explosive device.



May 2010

[John P. Pryor](#)

Age 42

of Moorestown, NJ; assigned to the 1st Medical Detachment, Forward Surgical Team, Fort Totten, NY; died Dec. 25, 2008, in Mosul of wounds sustained when a mortar round impacted near his living quarters.



Apr 2010

[Ryan J. Connolly](#)

Age 24

of Vacaville, CA; assigned to 173rd Special Troops Battalion, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, Bamberg, Germany; died June 24, 2008, in Khogyani, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when his vehicle struck a suspected landmine.



Mar 2010

[Katie M. Soenksen](#)

Age 19

of Davenport, IA; was assigned to the 410th Military Police Company, 720th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas died May 2, 2007 in Baghdad of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near her vehicle.



Feb 2010

[Joseph M. Hernandez](#)

Age 24

of Hammond, IN; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, Hohenfels, Germany.; died Jan. 9, 2009, in Jaldak, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. Also killed were MAJ Brian M. Mescall and SPC Jason R. Parsons.



Jan 2010

[Anthony C. Garcia](#)

Age 21

of Panama City, FL; assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Hawaii; died Aug. 5 2009, while supporting combat operations in Farah province, Afghanistan.

Arlington Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknowns

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project has long honored today's war veterans by sending shipments of personal care items to wounded warriors recovering from their wounds at the Army medical center in Germany.

On May 22, members of the non-profit, headquartered in Stafford County, honored yesterday's heroes by participating in a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

"It's hard to put into words what an honor it is to pay tribute to the real heroes, the ones that have actually died and made the ultimate sacrifice for the country," said Army Sgt. Joe Santolla. "I don't feel worthy of doing it."



Santolla was one of four participants who took part in the ceremony on behalf of Landstuhl Hospital Care Project. The soft-spoken Santolla was wounded by a roadside bomb in May of 2009 and suffered a traumatic brain injury. He was talked into participating in the wreath laying ceremony by his wife and daughter.

"I really didn't want to do it to begin with. I didn't feel like I earned it," he said.



Combat medic Michelle Gray, a veteran of both the Air Force and Army Reserves, took part in a motorcycle ride that benefited Landstuhl Hospital Care Project in early May, where she met the organization's president, Karen Grimord. It was during that ride that Grimord asked Gray if she would like to take part in the wreath laying ceremony.

"I don't think there's any words," she said before the wreath laying. "I can't describe how it feels."

Paul Russo, who served as LHCP's civic/corporate representative for the ceremony, is a veteran of the Air Force and National Guard who currently works as a local veterans' employment representative for the Department of Labor.

Paul Russo, who served as LHCP's civic/corporate representative for the

"I think it's unbelievable that I'm here today to do this," he said. "It's a privilege to be part of this."

Contact Information

Every month, donations of money or items requested by the hospitals we serve help us prepare our shipments. Such contributions will be appreciated by all those that are serving our country. You can find more information on donating to LHCP by going on the How to Help page on our website, or using the contact information below:

Mailing Address (correspondence only)

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project
29 Greenleaf Terrace
Stafford, VA 22556
Telephone: (540) 286- 1512

Website: www.landstuhlhospitalcareproject.org

To inquire about organizing a drive or fundraiser, contact President and Founder, Karen Grimord. Email: lhcp.president@yahoo.com

Monetary Donations are sent to:

Landstuhl Hospital Care Project
c/o Sharon Buck, Treasurer
52 Seminole Trail
Fort Mitchell, AL 36856

Email: lhcp.treasurer@yahoo.com