

# Operation Outreach Afghanistan

HEALING HEARTS AND MINDS

SEPTEMBER 2011

## OUR MISSION:

Operation Outreach Afghanistan (OOA) will empower the Afghan people through compassionate humanitarian assistance.

OOA is a volunteer organization. It is not affiliated or sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense.

## WHO WE ARE:

We are a group of deployed U.S. service members and civilians working to bring relief and aid to the Afghan people. We volunteer our "off-duty" time to help provide commonly needed items to those in need.

## LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Lt. Col. George Harrington  
Chairman/President

Staff Sgt. Holly Gilmore  
Deputy Chairman

Capt. Tyler Field  
Treasurer

Staff Sgt. Amy Barry  
Secretary

Capt. Allison Bailey  
Medical Treatment Advisor

Lt. James Holstein  
Medical Supplies Advisor

Senior Master Sgt.  
Shaun Crusha  
Logistics Advisor

Chief Warrant Officer 2  
Christopher Ramsey  
IT Advisor

1st Lt. Kelly Souza  
Public Affairs Advisor

## CONTACT:

Face book:  
Operation Outreach  
Afghanistan

Web:  
[www.opoutreach.org](http://www.opoutreach.org)

Email:  
[Op.outreach.afg@gmail.com](mailto:Op.outreach.afg@gmail.com)

## Schools and Supplies During Ramadan



Girls from a school outside of Kabul city enjoy school kits donated by Operation Outreach Afghanistan.

### TOTAL GIFTS AND DONATIONS FOR AUGUST

GIFTS:	\$3,152.10
POSTAGE:	\$1,508.94
CASH/POGS:	\$505.05

### TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS:

**\$8,336.01**

Total gifts and donations received since Sept. 2010:

**\$89,568.95**



## Outreach Quick Facts

- OOA volunteers have participated in 68 meetings since March 2010.
- Volunteers have donated 3,935 man hours and collected more than \$138,854 in gifts.
- 26 volunteers have participated in 39 humanitarian missions.
- OOA active membership is 257.
- OOA has held 59 conex work days to organize humanitarian assistance gifts.
- More than 19,700 Afghans have benefited from OOA's humanitarian assistance and medical aid this year.
- 142 volunteers have earned the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Award.



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**SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
NEEDED**

# From the Chairman

“A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination.” Nelson Mandela

Mr. Mandela’s words describe the foundation of Operation Outreach. I am continually grateful for the donations of our generous benefactors at home and the awesome work by those here in Kabul. Your efforts have significantly improved school and living conditions for thousands of people in Afghanistan, especially children.

We continue our push to make this a multi-national effort. We now have Coalition forces joining our efforts to consolidate and repackage donations for distribution. We also have interest on creating Outreach chapters at other Kabul bases as well.

The US and Coalition Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines of the Kabul Base Cluster are truly inspiring. By volunteering their time they continue the Operation Outreach tradition of selfless service while conducting their difficult military duties.

The efforts of our benefactors at home and those here in Kabul are truly a “formidable combination.”

Thank all of you for being a part of it.

George Harrington  
Chairman / President  
Operation Outreach

PS: As winter approaches, please keep in mind that the Kabul area can get very cold. Donations such as blankets, winter jackets and children's clothes are needed as we turn towards the last quarter of the year. In addition, we always run short of children's safety scissors for our school packs. Thanks Again!



## *The following school supplies are des-*

- Children’s scissors, erasers, pencil sharpeners,
- Pens, pencils, crayons, markers
- Small notebooks, children’s books
- Glue sticks, small rulers, paper
- Small backpacks, games, small toys
- Loads of 2-gallon plastic freezer bags



**OPERATION OUTREACH  
AFGHANISTAN**



# School Supplies

from page 1

By 1st Lt. Kelly Sullivan, Task Force Yankee Public Affairs

KABUL , Afghanistan — For many children in the United States, September means one thing, back to school.

In Kabul, the end of August signified the end of Ramadan meaning many children here also returned to school, but this September they would return with much needed supplies thanks to donations from Operation Outreach Afghanistan.

As part of Operation Outreach Afghanistan, servicemembers collect, sort and bag items donated from family members, friends and strangers in the United States. The items are then



**Capt. Peter Moores, a command judge advocate for Task Force Yankee hands school supply kits and candy during humanitarian aid drop at a school in Kabul province on August 15, 2011**



**Afghan children pose for a photo outside a school house in Kabul after the servicemembers prior to receiving Operation Outreach Afghanistan school supply kits.**

handed out to local Afghan children during humanitarian aid drops and school visits.

U.S. Military members stationed on Camp Phoenix brought donated school supplies and candy to children at various schools in the Kabul Province, on August 15 and 24, 2011.

Operations such as this give servicemembers a chance to interact and directly impact the citizens of Afghanistan.

As fall ends and winter sets in drops like this are essential. Not only to guarantee that children receive the supplies they need for school, but also to ensure they receive necessary items cold weather items like socks and jackets.

## *The following school supplies are desperately needed:*

- Children's scissors, erasers, pencil sharpeners
- Pens, pencils, crayons, markers
- Small notebooks, children's books
- Glue sticks, small rulers, paper
- Small backpacks, games, small toys
- Loads of 2-gallon plastic freezer bags



**OPERATION OUTREACH  
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# Around 00A



OPERATION OUTREACH  
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**Kabul** is a city of about four million residents and about a third are school-aged. As a result, **OOA** is **MOST IN NEED OF BASIC SCHOOL SUPPLIES**, especially pencils, pens and notebooks. They will continue to accept shoes, clothes, blankets, children's books and first aid kits. Please mail your gifts to:

**OOA - George Harrington  
26th Yankee Brigade  
Camp Phoenix  
APO, AE 09320**



# Around 00A



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# **INTERESTED IN JOINING OOA?**

**OOA holds full meetings every two weeks in the Camp Phoenix warehouse — Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. — and committees meet every other week to organize humanitarian assistance missions, hand-write thank you notes to donors, plan social events, coordinate medical missions and handle information technology issues.**

**Volunteers sort donations for future missions every Friday at 4 p.m. in the container yard in the northwest side of Camp Phoenix. Servicemembers donating 80 hours of their time will be eligible for the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.**



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