



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CENTRAL LIBRARY PARTNERS WITH USO TO COLLECT
“WELCOME HOME” PACKAGES FOR RETURNING TROOPS**

Central Library will host donation booth Monday/Wednesday evenings in July

SAN DIEGO The Central Library is partnering with USO San Diego during the month of July on “Operation Gratitude.” The program will collect donations of care packages for troops returning from overseas assignments. Donations can be dropped off in the lobby of the San Diego Public Library on weeknights when the Central Library is open (Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.). For security purposes, please do not drop donations into the book drop.

The USO San Diego provides “Welcome Home” packages for troops returning from overseas assignments. Packages could include the following:

- Toiletries
- Bottled water
- Non-perishable snacks
- Other items for entertainment, such as
- Decks of cards
- Crossword puzzle magazines
- Books or magazines
- Thank you letter from donor

Welcome Home packages bring a sense of “home away from home” to troops on their way to catch another flight, train, or bus to reach their final destination. USO San Diego will deliver the packages either to one troop at a time as they pass through a USO centers in San Diego, or to thousands of troops during a homecoming event.

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USO San Diego is a Chartered Center of the National USO organization, and is a locally funded, 501(C)(3) non-profit organization that has been serving the region's Armed Forces and their families since 1941. The San Diego Public Library will collect, store and seal the Welcome Home packages for USO San Diego until the end of July.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials online in the Library's catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other.

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