

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2009

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Camp Fire USA Donates Candy to Deployed Troops' Families

(Seattle, WA) Camp Fire USA Central Puget Sound Council has formed a partnership with Operation Homefront to distribute candy from its annual candy fundraiser to families of deployed troops. While planning for the 2009 Candy Fundraiser, Camp Fire youth came up with the idea of supporting our troops by supporting their families.

Camp Fire's CEO Jane White Vulliet explained how the idea came about: "During the past year, several Camp Fire families, who have had a parent deployed to the Middle East, have told us how difficult their absence is on their families' lives. The worry, stress and, at times, reduced income can make these families feel isolated, stressed, and forgotten. Hearing this, our Camp Fire youth members wanted to offer a way for people to buy candy to help these families of service men and women know that we appreciate their sacrifice."

People who would like to send candy to families of deployed troops may do so by indicating this when they purchase it (Details below). Camp Fire will then send their purchases, with a note of thanks and caring, to families served by Operation Homefront. Operation Homefront Washington, a not-for-profit organization, provides services to military families because the entire family sacrifices and serves when a service member is deployed.

The annual Camp Fire Candy Fundraiser is currently in full swing and runs through February 16, 2009. Funds raised benefit more than 17,000 local boys and girls, ages 3 to 21, and their families through a variety of activities, including family clubs, environmental education, childcare, Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC), and programs for children with disabilities.

Boys and girls will be selling candy for \$5 per box outside grocery stores, retail outlets, banks, and other neighborhood locations. The candy is produced locally by Tacoma based, Brown & Haley, Camp Fire USA's supplier for the past 25 years. In addition to Brown & Haley's famous Almond Roca, Camp Fire youth sell Creamy Smooth Mint Patties and Almond Caramel Clusters, which are only produced for Camp Fire. To order candy, please call Camp Fire USA at 253 854 3676 or 800 451 CAMP.

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Camp Fire USA provides all-inclusive, co-educational youth development nationwide. Founded in 1910, with national headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri, Camp Fire USA's mission is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. By design, Camp Fire USA's programs include family and small group experiences, after school programs, camping and environmental education, child care and service learning. The Camp Fire USA experience builds confidence in younger children and provides hands-on, youth-driven leadership experiences for older youth. The Central Puget Sound Council serves King, Kitsap and North Mason counties. For more information, visit www.campfire-usa.org.

Operation Homefront provides emergency assistance and morale to our troops, to the families they leave behind and to wounded warriors when they return home. A nonprofit 501(c)(3), Operation Homefront leads more than 4,500 volunteers in 30 chapters nationwide and has provided critical assistance to more than 45,000 military families in need. For more information on the local chapter, visit www.operationhomefrontwashington.com

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