



**American
Red Cross**

Cascades Region
Serving Oregon and
SW Washington
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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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Join the American Red Cross to Help Veterans in Need

In honor of Veterans Day, join the Red Cross to assemble donated toiletry items into comfort kits for homeless veterans and veteran's hospitals.

PORTLAND, Ore., November 8, 2017 –In celebration of Veterans Day and 100 years of Red Cross services in the Cascades Region, join the Red Cross to assemble donated toiletry items into comfort kits to give to homeless veterans and veteran's hospitals.

Today, November 8, participate in a meaningful Veterans Day volunteer event. Join us at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall (680 NW Bond St. in Bend) at 6 p.m. to help assemble donated toiletry items such as toothpaste, shampoo and body wash into comfort kits to give to local homeless veterans and veteran's hospital patients.

Volunteers of all ages are welcome. Participants may also bring donated new toiletry items to the event. For more information on our Veterans Day toiletry drive visit RedCrossVetsDay.org.

LIST OF NEW ITEMS NEEDED: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, first aid kits, hand sanitizer, soap, shampoo, conditioner, bandages, antibiotic ointment, lip balm, antacids, nail clippers, socks, hairbrushes/combs, knit hats, gloves, hand warmers, grocery gift cards and washcloths

ABOUT RED CROSS SERVICE TO THE ARMED FORCES:

The American Red Cross plays a vital role in supporting our military and their families. Service to the Armed Forces is the Red Cross' oldest line of service. Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross with the humanitarian mission of caring for wounded warriors more than 135 years ago. Red Cross services in Oregon and Southwest Washington were initiated to help soldiers overseas during WWI. Today, the Red Cross provides emergency communications, financial assistance, counseling and other services to active duty personnel, National Guard and Reservists, retired military members, and their immediate families.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS: The Red Cross emergency communications service is a valued resource that family members can use to ensure the delivery of important messages to their loved ones in a time of crisis or celebration. Our verification service also helps military authorities make leave decisions for soldiers to return home to their families.

HERO CARE NETWORK: The Red Cross briefs departing service members and their families regarding available support services and explains how the Red Cross may assist them during **deployment**.

RECONNECTION WORKSHOPS: These free [workshops](#) focus on positive reunions among family members and their returning deployed loved ones. Actively licensed and specially trained Red Cross mental health professionals lead participants through information and discussions designed to help identify and respond to the challenges of readjusting to and transitioning back to a changed family dynamic. Topics include: Communicating Clearly, Exploring Stress and Trauma, Identifying Depression, Relating to Children and Working through Anger.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org/Cascades or find us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/RedCrossCascades](https://www.facebook.com/RedCrossCascades), Twitter at [@RedCrossCasc](https://twitter.com/RedCrossCasc) and find us on Instagram at [@RedCrossCascades](https://www.instagram.com/RedCrossCascades).