



PRESS RELEASE



★ MORE THAN A GAME ★

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Hugs for Soldiers Receives Gwinnett Braves July Grant

Team's grant will help expand the "Christmas for a Soldier" initiative

The Gwinnett Braves announced today that Hugs for Soldiers is the recipient of the Gwinnett Braves July Grant. The \$1,000 grant will be used to cover shipping expenses for their "Christmas for a Soldier" holiday care package program.

The "Christmas for a Soldier" holiday care packages provide items needed by troops deployed in remote areas of Afghanistan and Iraq. These packages include letters of encouragement designed to strengthen the troops' morale and express gratitude for their service. This past year, the program shipped over 2,300 Christmas care packages to deployed troops. The grant will be used to increase the number of troops reached this year. "Hugs for Soldiers" is honored and extremely grateful to receive the Gwinnett Braves Grant. We hope our packages, cards, and letters will lift the troops' spirits and fill their holiday with good wishes and "Hugs."

"The grant will enable us to expand our program to more troops and cover the high cost of shipping expenses to these areas," said program founder Angie Doerlich.

About Hugs for Soldiers

Hugs for Soldiers is a ministry of Duluth First United Methodist Church. Since February of 2003, the organization has grown to support thousands of service members stationed throughout Afghanistan and Iraq. The organization offers several initiative programs throughout the year which helps to provide an avenue for local citizens to show their support to our nation's military.

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The Gwinnett Braves operate under the Atlanta Braves Foundation and specifically focus on those organizations in Gwinnett and its surrounding counties. The Atlanta Braves Foundation is the non-profit arm of the Atlanta Braves that actively supports community organizations and their programs within the metro Atlanta area. Through the foundation, the team is dedicated to providing social, educational and scholarship opportunities for the youth in our surrounding communities in connection with the activities of the Gwinnett Braves baseball club. Follow the G-Braves at gwinnettbraves.com, [facebook.com/GwinnettBraves1](https://www.facebook.com/GwinnettBraves1), and twitter.com/GwinnettBraves.

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