

**Contact:**

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YMCA of the Chippewa Valley Calls on Community to Support Active Troops with Care Package Sponsorships During Community Day of Support

Chippewa Falls & Eau Claire, WI – Monday, October 28, 2024

The YMCA of the Chippewa Valley is eager to announce its Community Day of Support for the Support Our Troops Care Package Drive, will be taking place on Tuesday, October 29. The Community Day of Support is an online giving campaign hosted on the YMCA Facebook pages asking the community to sponsor 400 care packages through online donations. With a significant increase in the number of requested care packages, from 367 last year to 600 this year, the YMCA is reaching out to the community and area businesses to help fulfill the need to fill these boxes with goodies for our troops.

The YMCA encourages community members to sponsor a care package with an online donation of \$25. These care packages are a symbol of our collective gratitude and can be dedicated in honor or in memory of someone special. Donations can be made easily through the YMCA's website www.ymca-cv.org/troops. The YMCA is hoping to have 400, or more, care packages sponsored through cash donations on Tuesday, October 29. All are welcome to watch the live progress of this goal by watching the Facebook pages of the Chippewa Falls YMCA, Eau Claire Downtown YMCA, or Eau Claire South YMCA.

"The Support Our Troops Care Package drive shines a light on the selfless service of our troops, who will be away from home during the upcoming holiday season. The community, along with Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Company, and McDonell Area Catholic Schools National Honor Society have always been a huge supporters of this initiative," said Amy Huempfer, Association Marketing Director for the YMCA of the Chippewa Valley. "This year, with such a huge increase in demand for boxes to be sent, we are hoping the community and area businesses can step up in a big way to support our troops and fulfill all 600 care package requests."

In addition to online donations, the YMCA has set up multiple drop-off locations throughout the Chippewa Valley for those who wish to contribute items for the care packages. The list of needed items and drop-off locations can be found on the YMCA's website. Items can be donated at these locations until Thursday, November 7.

The care packages include a variety of goods such as non-perishable snacks, personal hygiene items, and entertainment that bring comfort to the troops while they are away from home. Each package is not only a collection of items but also a message of appreciation and support from the Chippewa Valley.

The YMCA of the Chippewa Valley is dedicated to strengthening the foundations of the community through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Support Our Troops is an opportunity for the community to rally together for a common cause – to show appreciation for the women and men who serve our nation.

For more information about the Community Day of Support, to make a donation, or to find out how to get involved, please contact Amy Huempfer, ahuempfer@ymca-cv.org, or visit the YMCA's website at www.ymca-cv.org/troops.

Together, let's make a difference in the lives of those who serve to protect us.

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Contact:

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Media Requested & Welcome:

- Interviews available upon request.
- Friday, November 8 from 10 AM-Noon or Saturday, November 9 from 8:30-11 AM at the Chippewa Falls YMCA
 - Media contact on the day of the event is Jim Ignarski, 715-577-5578

About the Y

The Y is the nation's leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community through programs that focus on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. The Y has been listening and responding to the needs of our neighbors for over 175 years and is dedicated to building healthy, confident, connected, and secure children, adults, families, and communities.