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### **The Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross Partners with Fairleigh Dickinson University to Sponsor a "Comforts from Home" Drive for the Military**

By Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross  
12/8/2009



The Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross partnered with Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) to sponsor a Comforts from Home drive to send food and toiletries to Fort Dix in Monmouth County. The goods

will then be sent overseas for military personnel serving abroad. The Colonial Crossroads Chapter has a team of volunteers who regularly travel to Ft. Dix to support the military personnel with items donated from the public or through canteening. FDU served as the collection center for this drive starting the week of November 16th and the response was overwhelming. "We have had so many students and families stop by to drop off goods that we extended the drive until December 4th," says Marjorie Hall, FDU, university coordinator, Educational Opportunity Fund Program. Students began packing up the goods on Monday, December 7th for the Red Cross to pick up on Tuesday.

#### Red Cross Support of the Military

The Red Cross support of the armed forces can be traced back to the Civil War, when the future founder of the organization, Clara Barton, took it upon herself to provide supplies and nursing services to soldiers on the battlefield. Meanwhile, European nations were drafting and signing the Treaty of Geneva, aimed at protecting wounded and sick soldiers and the relief workers who came to their aid under the emblem of the Red Cross.

Chapter Director of Emergency Services Barb Flynn says, "The original mission of the Red Cross continues today and our Chapter has an active Service to the Armed Forces program that includes communication services between military personnel and their families 24/7. For more information about the program please check our website at [www.ccnjredcross.org](http://www.ccnjredcross.org).

For residents interested in volunteering or learning more

about the Service to the Armed Forces, please contact Volunteer Manager Marisa Hottat at 973-377-0455, ext. 15 or visit [www.ccnjredcross.org](http://www.ccnjredcross.org)

About the American Red Cross in your area: The Colonial Crossroads Chapter has served the residents of Berkeley Heights, Chatham Borough, Chatham Township, East Hanover, Florham Park, Long Hill Township, Madison, New Providence, Springfield and Summit since 1917. To find out more about the local Red Cross, how you can donate your expertise, time, money or blood; or to help your family, business, or community prepare for emergencies, please visit [www.ccnjredcross.org](http://www.ccnjredcross.org)

**Photo above:** *From left to right: Freshman Donald Colindres (Linden, NJ) who is majoring in Sociology and Johadane Pierre (Neptune, NJ) a freshman majoring in Education/French helped collect and pack items destined for military personnel at Ft. Dix.*

*Photo courtesy of The Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross*

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