

For Immediate Release**October 19, 2020****Contact:** Dawn M. Cwierley, Public Relations Manager**Office:** (716) 447-6279 | **Cell:** (716) 225-9428 | **Email:** dcwierle@chsbuffalo.org**Operation Gratitude delivers care packages to frontline workers at Kenmore Mercy Hospital**

Associates at Kenmore Mercy Hospital recently received special care packages thanks to the national nonprofit Operation Gratitude and CSX who teamed up to deliver coffee, single-serve snacks, and candy, as well as handwritten letters of appreciation from grateful Americans.

The “Jumbo Care Package” shipment is part of Operation Gratitude’s nationwide efforts to lift the spirits of frontline workers across the United States.

“When people ask why Operation Gratitude pivoted to include support for doctors and nurses at hospitals and first responders nationwide, the answer is simple -- they are on the frontlines of this pandemic and they need our help,” said the CEO of Operation Gratitude, retired Marine Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Schmiegel. “As an organization led by veterans and military spouses, we recognize they are the ones on the battlefield right now fighting an invisible enemy.”

Operations Gratitude’s act of kindness serves as a reminder that healthcare workers, too, need support in the ongoing battle against COVID-19.

“These items go a long way to boost morale and continue to remind our healthcare heroes who are fighting COVID-19 that they are appreciated,” said Susan Jandzinski, executive director of the Kenmore Mercy Foundation, which helped facilitate the gift to the hospital.

To learn more about how you can contribute to the Kenmore Mercy Foundation during this most critical time, visit www.chsbuffalo.org/COVIDresponse.

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