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NEWS RELEASE

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DVS, DOH Launch *Operation Holiday Cheer 2022* to Bring Christmas Holiday Greetings to Residents & Staff at the State Veterans Homes in TorC and Fort Bayard

SANTA FE-The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services (DVS) and the Department of Health are kicking off *Operation Holiday Cheer 2022*.

Launched three years ago, Operation Holiday Cheer urges New Mexicans to send Christmas holiday season cards to bring holiday greetings and cheer to residents and staff of the state veterans homes in Truth or Consequences and Fort Bayard.

Many of the resident veterans have little or no contact with family—not only during the holiday season, but throughout the year. Some residents do not have any surviving family members. Additionally, many of the home's staff work through the holiday season to provide year-round, round-the-clock care for the residents.

Cards should be sent directly to the homes. They will be randomly and evenly distributed among residents and staff. Cards for residents need only be addressed with "Dear Veteran" or "Dear Hero," and contain a short message of appreciation for the veteran's military service.

Cards to staff members can be addressed with "Dear Frontline Hero" or other terms of endearment, along with a brief message of appreciation for providing care for the home's residents.

Cards should be mailed to:
New Mexico State Veterans Home
992 South Broadway
Truth or Consequences, NM 87901

ATTN: Operation Holiday Cheer

Fort Bayard State Veterans Home

41 Fort Bayard Rd. Santa Clara, NM 88026

The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services

The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services (DVS) provides support and services to New Mexico's 151,000 veterans and their families. DVS treats every veteran, regardless of their rank achieved during military service, with the respect and gratitude befitting someone who has served our country. We strive every day to live up to our agency's official motto: Serving Those Who Served

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