



News Release

News Release No. 40

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14 December 2011

APG South makes generous donations during winter months, holiday season

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. – Defense organizations located across the south campus of Aberdeen Proving Ground contributed a significant amount of donations to local charities before and during the holiday season.

Lending less fortunate community members a helping hand throughout the colder months of the year, the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) and its partners spearheaded a winter apparel drive from Sept. 26 to Oct. 28 as well as a food, toy and gift drive from Oct.31 to Dec.2.

APG South organizations that participated in the winter apparel drive in support of the Edgewood Sharing Table collected 62 bags of winter clothing as well as an additional 50 coats, 28 scarves and hats, and 41 pairs of gloves. The Sharing Table, a non-profit coalition of churches, is dedicated to reaching out to fellow citizens in need and serving them a free meal every Saturday.

Seamlessly transitioning into the food, toy and gift drive, workforce members from 27 Edgewood locations continued to donate food and toys to ensure that local military and civilian families in need can enjoy a special holiday season.

At the closing ceremony of APG South's twenty-fourth food, toy and gift drive, held at ECBC's Berger Auditorium Dec.6, participating organizations handed over the donations of this joint effort to selected recipients. Collectively, employees that work at Edgewood filled 60 boxes with food items and more than 50 boxes with used and new toys.

But, the generosity of APG South's workforce members went even further. They reached out to sponsor 34 military families from the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (MRICD), 20th Support Command and the 22nd Chemical Battalion through Army Community Services, answering wish lists of children that would possibly

remain unheard otherwise.

“During this time of the year, it is all about making a difference, and you have truly stepped up to the plate to make a significant difference in our community,” said Alvin “AJay” Thornton, who is currently acting technical director at ECBC. “This is the kind of effort that makes APG South so special and me so proud of being a part of this community.”

Food items were presented to Mason Dixon Community Services, an organization that provides emergency food and energy assistance to low-income residents in Harford County. Used and new toys were handed over to the Edgewood Sharing Table and Extreme Family Outreach, an organization that provides after school and summer programs for elementary- and middle school-aged youth in Edgewood, Joppatowne, and Havre de Grace.

Participating organizations included U.S. Army Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives; Chemical Materials Agency; ECBC; Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense; Joint Project Manager for Biological Defense; Joint Project Manager for Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Contamination Avoidance; MRICD; as well as the headquarters of the Research, Development and Engineering Command.

For more information about ECBC, visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/>.

ECBC is the Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and field operations. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for the warfighter and for our national defense, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is a U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command laboratory located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our website at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil> or call (410) 436-7118.