

AN OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY WISH BECOMES EXTRAORDINARY



WISH #22

March 30, 2010



Staff SGT Hendricks, and son, Deontee.

3 weeks ago, Wish For Our Heroes President, Jeff Wells, was watching the San Antonio news, and saw a story that was deeply disturbing. A local Boy Scout troop (Troop 701) had fallen victim to vandalism, having all its camping supplies and trailer that housed the supplies, stolen - from a church parking lot, no less. Appalled by the incident, Wish For Our Heroes contacted the reporter who covered the story and inquired as to whether any of the boys' parents were, by chance, active military. As it turned out, 2 boys' parents were active, and several others were retired military. Staff Sergeant Christopher Dorsey, is serving with the National Guard in Afghanistan, and is the father of Devin Dorsey, who is currently finishing the final draft of his Eagle Scout application. Staff Sergeant Kamesha Hendricks is serving at Lackland AFB and is the mother of Deontee Hendricks, who is fairly new to Troop 701. Additionally, many previous Scouts of Troop 701 had active military parents. Thinking about these parents protecting our country both at home and away, and knowing what their troop had already brought to the community, we hoped we could help in some way.



Mrs. Dorsey and son, Devin.



Scoutmaster Mark Sharp indicated approximately \$6,500 worth of supplies and equipment had been stolen, and we arranged to meet two of the mother's from the troop, Katie Deppe and Debbie Swisher, at a sporting goods store to replace some of the missing items. After stops at 3 retail stores, we were able to replace all the boys supplies - an amount that had taken Troop 701 nearly 10 years to accumulate. In addition, we purchased a new trailer that was larger than their previous trailer, installed with an anti-theft device.

Lt. Col Crane

During the time we were purchasing items, the boys were "roughing it" on a campout with no supplies or sleeping bags. They were allowed to bring a backpack of essentials, but had to use resources from the environment the entire weekend. Their Scoutmaster and leaders instilled the importance of survival and working together, despite lack of resources. The scouts quickly appreciated the items they previously had, and the time and effort it had taken their troop to accumulate the items.

THE WISH

On March 30th, Wish For Our Heroes entered the church parking lot where Troop 701's meetings are held, with the new trailer and supplies in tow. Thirty minutes into their meeting, Scoutmaster Sharp led the boys to the parking lot, where their new trailer and supplies were on display. The looks on the boys' faces were priceless, and were captured by many, which we will share in an upcoming video. Between parents and Scout members, approximately 50 people were in attendance, and there were several damp eyes in the crowd. These boys had fallen victim to an unfortunate incident, but were determined to make the most of it until fundraisers and community outreach could assist them. Their efforts paid off, but the true reward was for us, as a foundation. Knowing we could help a group of kids, our future leaders, was extraordinary. Also knowing that the wish came to us in an unordinary fashion, showed us the true potential of the foundation, and how we can help others. Simply watching the news brought this wish to our attention, and as a result became our largest wish to date, with a value of \$9,500. Stay tuned for video coverage of this truly unforgettable event.

