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SANITARY DISTRICT NO. 2 HAS PARTNERED WITH CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS TO PROVIDE TROOPS WITH FREE CALLS HOME

BALDWIN and JANUARY 4, 2012, SANITARY DISTRICT NO. 2 and non-profit Cell Phones for Soldiers Inc. are asking Sanitary District No. 2 residents to help troops call home by donating gently-used cellular phones. With ongoing deployments to combat areas and elsewhere, as many as 369,000 troops are serving in the U.S. military overseas. By donating gently-used cellular phones to Cell Phones for Soldiers, Sanitary District No. 2 residents can provide troops with that precious connection to loved ones back home.

Beginning today, residents can donate their phones to the cause at Sanitary District No. 2 offices located at 2090 Grand Avenue, Baldwin.

"This program is a win-win for our military personnel and for our residents to properly dispose of their out dated and unused cellular phones" said Secretary to the Board Douglas Wiedmann.

Siblings Robbie and Brittany Bergquist founded Cell Phones for Soldiers at the ages of 12 and 13. The charity has since provided more than 114 million minutes of free talk time to service men and women stationed around the world. Funds raised from the recycling of cellular phones are used to purchase pre-paid international calling cards. On average, Cell Phones for Soldiers distributes 12,000 calling cards each week to bases around the world, care package programs, deployment ceremonies and VA hospitals.

"Each year we have been humbled by the amount of people and organizations like Sanitary District No. 2 that take the initiative to support our troops," said co-founder Brittany Bergquist. "We have also watched the communication gap between our armed forces and their loved ones continue to grow as more troops are deployed for their third or fourth tour overseas."

Donated phones are sent to Michigan-based ReCellular for recycling. For every donated phone valued at just \$5, Cell Phones for Soldiers is able to provide two and a half hours of free talk time to deployed troops.

ABOUT CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS INC.

Cell Phones for Soldiers Inc. (CPFS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing deployed and returning troops cost-free methods to communicate with family while serving in the United States military. Based in Norwell, Mass., CPFS was founded in 2004 by Robbie and Brittany Bergquist, then 12 and 13 years old. From the recycling of used mobile phones and cash donations, the organization has raised more than \$7 million, collected more than 8.3 million cell phones and provided troops overseas with more than 114 million minutes of free talk time. For more information www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com. Find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/JoinCellPhonesforSoldiers>.