



# VFW NATIONAL MILITARY SERVICES

VFW OPERATION UPLINK™ • VFW UNMET NEEDS • VFW MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## UPDATE

### Sport Clips Haircuts Exceeds \$1 Million in Donations to VFW *Operation Uplink*™

February 1, 2012 • VFW National Military Services Update

On Jan. 31, Sport Clips Haircuts presented the VFW with a \$450,000 check for *Operation Uplink*™, the program's largest single donation in history. The gift brings Sport Clips' total donations to the program to more than \$1.3 million over the last five years. The donation exceeded Sport Clips' 2011 gift by \$50,000 and represents funds raised by company team members and clients from 825 locations across the country.

Sport Clips' annual Help a Hero campaign to benefit *Operation Uplink* has made possible more than 1.5 million free calls home for deployed and hospitalized service members overseas via satellite phone and computer.



Sport Clips Founder/CEO, lifetime VFW Member and VFW Foundation Board Member Gordon Logan presented the check to VFW leadership at its national headquarters in Kansas City, Mo.

"We hear over and over how meaningful these phone calls home are to our troops and their families throughout the year, and it makes us all proud to know we'll be sponsoring 17 call days in 2012. It was important to me when I was overseas with the Air Force, and it's important to our troops overseas and in hospitals to be

able to call home during long deployments," Logan said.

Cassie Guy, franchise owner of the Port Arthur, Texas store that raised the most money in the Sport Clips system, attended the check presentation along with store manager Mandy Smith. Guy says the store's team members feel driven by the purpose of Help a Hero and went all-out working before, during and after hours to hold garage and bake sales, a clay shoot, an auction and a tailgate at a nearby university to increase awareness and donations for the program.

"Sport Clips' generosity to the VFW and its *Operation Uplink* program has been extraordinary over the years. Sport Clips has sponsored an abundance of VFW *Operation Uplink* 'Free Call Days,' totaling 17,610,355 minutes of free calls home for soldiers and hospitalized veterans," said VFW National Commander Richard DeNoyer. "They have made a remarkable effort to assist the VFW in aiding veterans and service members, and we are enormously grateful to Sport Clips for their ongoing commitment to our nation's heroes."

The next Free Call Day is set for Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. Click [here](#) to see the complete 2012 Free Call Day schedule. To learn more about *Operation Uplink* and other VFW National Military Services programs, click [here](#).

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