



January 2025

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! This is a big year for The Comfort Cub as we celebrate our 25th year of operation! We are so grateful to be here and growing to provide comfort to so many people in need.

Speaking of need, we have been off to one of the busiest starts to a new year since we started. Unfortunately, there have been many difficult situations this month, beginning with the New Years Day tragedy in New Orleans, then two school shootings and then to top it off, the most devastating fires California has seen in over four decades! We are grateful to be able to say, we have been responding to all of these disasters thanks to the support of people like you. We were able to get Comfort Cubs to the victims and survivors of all of these events and are continuing to do so.

Although The Comfort Cub certainly cannot solve all of these problems we know that we are helping to ease the pain of those involved. We have learned first hand that letting people know they are not alone and that there are many people who care, goes a long way in their healing process. It's hard for me to express the gratitude I feel in my heart. You are allowing us to respond with the love of a Comfort Cub when tragedy strikes. Thank you so very much!

Warmly,

Marcella



Preparing Cubs for Wildfire Victims

We are blessed to have another story of comfort and connection made possible by your support. Our Comfort Cubs recently traveled to Los Angeles to bring solace to families impacted by the devastating wildfires.

The students of Mira Mesa High School's Associated Student Body (ASB) lovingly packed and tagged over 60 of our weighted bears, each with a personal message of hope.



Our Ambassador, Alicia O'Neill, met with the incredible team at the L.A. Dream Center, who are working tirelessly to support those who have lost everything in the recent wildfires. We joined them as they distributed essential supplies, including our Comfort Cubs, to a long line of cars filled with families displaced by the fires. Knowing that our Comfort Cubs are providing a sense of security and support to those facing unimaginable loss is truly heartwarming.



Love for New Orleans

Tragically, on New Year's Day in New Orleans, a crazed driver drove through a crowd of people, killing 14 and injuring dozens. Thanks to our wonderful Ambassador, Chaplain Tony Dickey, we were able to hand deliver Comfort Cubs to all of the injured survivors and the families of those who were killed.

Here is a photo of our new friends, The Sensky Family. Survivor Jeremi is a paraplegic who had his legs shattered. Thank goodness his heavy wheelchair protected him from being killed. The Comfort Cub lifted their spirits, and they were touched that people who didn't even know them cared. All recipients were most grateful for your support.

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"Our baby was born 2 days shy of hitting the 22 week viability mark. She fought for hours in our arms, surrounded with love... and when she was ready, she drifted off. We held on to her as long as we could, but it wasn't nearly long enough compared to time we'd thought we'd have with her. We know that her presence is irreplaceable, but we have hopes that a Comfort Cub will help with our grieving process." - N.B.



"I am a special education teacher. I work with underprivileged students with intense, significant needs in Pasadena, CA. My students are survivors of the Los Angeles Eaton Fires. They would benefit from a comfort cub during this very difficult time. Our school has not yet reopened. In addition to the challenges they are facing due to the fires, they are exhibiting dysregulatory behaviors due to their absence of school attendance." - P.A.



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