

U.S. Department of Labor

Office of the Solicitor
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June 20, 2014

Project Linus
Attn: Sharon Lee
11061 S. Stelling Road
Cupertino, CA 95014

Dear Ms. Lee:

I wanted to express on behalf of the kids I worked with at the TAPS Good Grief Camp appreciation for what you and the others in your group do. This year I worked with 13 years olds as a group leader. As evidenced in the enclosed picture, we had a lot of great kids. This is a difficult age to be dealing with death and the loss of a loved one. Each child is paired with an active duty military member and then there are a group of leaders, including someone in the mental health field. We play games, we laugh, we cry, and we talk about how they are dealing with their missing family member and how it makes them feel.

The kids so enjoy getting one of your blankets to take home. We used them to sit on, to wrap up in, or to just hang on to when talking with their mentors. We let the mentors pick their assigned child a blanket – some kids loved baseball so they picked one with that motif or rainbows, U.S. Flags, military insignia, hand knitted blankets that remind them of home and family. My husband is a general in the United States Air Force and just served a year in Afghanistan. I am so thankful he came home safe. As I watched these kids, all I could think about was but by the grace of God I too could be sitting there, holding onto a blanket made by caring hands, wondering why I lost my loved one. I look forward each year to working with these special kids who carry such a heavy burden, Please know that your handiwork and time spent in making such beautiful blankets and throws is so appreciated by the kids. You help make it a little easier for the kids and I thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Said".

Tara Said,
Attorney at law