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TOS Kim Mitchem is donating two used cell phones to help support her cousin who is a Marine paratrooper in Iraq.

Help Support Troops by Donating Used Cell Phones

By LISA HUYNH

(Jan. 15, 2003) With an ambitious goal of collecting 2,000 used cell phones to support the troops returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom, the "Donate Old Phones to Thank Our Troops" campaign has been extended to Feb. 16.

"We currently have collected 750 phones," says Senior Community Relations Officer Barbara Burns. "We're hoping that employees will look into their hearts and dig out

their old cell phones to help us reach our goal."

Transit Operations Supervisor Kim Mitchem already has donated two used cell phones.

"I want to support my cousin who's been in Iraq for over a month," says Mitchem. "Giving up an old cell phone is such a small thing that can do a lot of good."

Supporting the troops

MTA teamed up with the Employers United for A Stronger America (EUSA) foundation in October 2003 to provide financial support to the National Guard and Reserves.

The donated cell phones will be refurbished and then be resold throughout the world. Seventy-five percent of the net funds from the resale will be given to returning soldiers and their families.

"This is the first year its been done," says Burns. "I think it's a great opportunity for Americans to give back to the troops and to say thank you."

Employees can drop off their old cell phones in the red bins at the Gateway building, the service sector offices and the operating divisions.

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