



Dallas County Council of Republican Women

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dallas, Texas (April 15, 2013) --

BBQ Beats an MRE

When the news came that the troops of the National Guard Bravo Company 2-149 stationed at the Grand Prairie reserve base were being deployed to Afghanistan, the Dallas County Council of Republican Women (DCCRW) realized they had a unique opportunity to support these soldiers and their families. Partnering with the Family Readiness Group, led by Lorie Hanna, wife of Bravo Company Commander Major Chris Hanna, three projects were quickly identified that would provide practical and tangible expressions of gratitude for their sacrifice.

The first took place in late March when seventy soldiers returned from several weeks of training. They were welcomed with a lunch of Dickey's barbecue and all of the fixings as soon as they got off of the buses that brought them back home. The second will take place at the Bravo Company Deployment Ceremony when 110 children of the deploying soldiers will receive their own special gift bags from DCCRW to help them feel closer to their absent parents. DCCRW will also distribute pocket flags and helmet liners to each soldier. The third event will be an appreciation luncheon for the Bravo Company spouses or family members in the Fall.

Bravo Company 2-149 is a General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB) which flies Chinook helicopters. They are being deployed to Afghanistan to serve in "Operation Enduring Freedom." The unit provides heavy lift support for personnel and cargo, heavy assault support for ground tactical engagements, as well as federal, state, and local support for emergency relief.

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[Photographs attached: 1. Some of the members of Bravo Company 2-149 enjoying their welcome home lunch 2. Yes, Barbecue *is* better than MREs!]

The Dallas County Council of Republican Women (DCCRW) is the not-for-profit umbrella organization for the sixteen Republican Women's clubs in Dallas County. Founded in 1955, DCCRW supports Republican candidates at the local, state and national level, promotes programs to inform the electorate, and participates in community service activities. DCCRW is affiliated with the Texas Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women. For more information see www.dccrw.org.



