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**National Anesthesia Services Kicks Off 2010 “Operation Iraq: The Spirit of Christmas” Campaign With \$10,000 Donation**

**Beverly Hills, Mich. - National Anesthesia Services** presented “Operation Iraq: The Spirit of Christmas” with a check for \$10,000 on Monday, August 9, 2010 at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington. On hand to accept the check was Ruth Ann Young, Founder and Director of the charity, originally from Waterford, Michigan.

Young developed a passion for Christmas early in life when her parents took her each year to Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland in Frankenmuth, Michigan for her birthday. Later in life, she actually met Wally Bronner who mentored her as she opened her own store, The Spirit of Christmas in Kirkland, WA. When her store was forced to close due to a fire in 2003, she combined her love of the holiday with her desire to help military personnel overseas and established “Operation Iraq: The Spirit of Christmas.” National’s donation enabled the organization to kick off their 2010 campaign.

**National Anesthesia Services** has been providing support to Operation Iraq since 2007. The organization, a recipient of the Raytheon Program Achievement Award, is entirely supported by donations and volunteer time from corporations and individuals and provides Christmas packages to members of the five branches of military personnel whom are stationed on the front lines. Volunteers will work countless hours these next few months to collect and assemble thousands of care packages to be shipped overseas and delivered on Christmas Day to our troops. To date, they have sent over 62,000 individual packages.

“It’s a blessing that we are able to continue to support such a great organization and give back to our troops,” said Stephen Read, President of **National Anesthesia Services**. “With over 21 years of experience placing physicians and CRNAs in permanent and locum tenens jobs, **National** has a great relationship with many military personnel whom are anesthesia providers. We enjoy knowing that some of them may receive a Christmas package and want them to know they are in our thoughts and prayers.”

Due to the current state of the economy Operation Iraq has lost the entity that provides transportation to Iraq and Afghanistan, making this year’s donations all the more crucial. Those interested in supporting this effort can obtain more information at [www.operationiraq.org](http://www.operationiraq.org).

“Without the generosity of National Anesthesia, we couldn’t send the quantity or quality of Christmas packages to our American heroes in Iraq and Afghanistan. On behalf of the men and women serving our country, we thank you for stepping up to the plate and joining the ranks here at home,” said Young.

**National Anesthesia Services** and **National Physician Staffing** are premier staffing firms located in Beverly Hills, Mich. The company, National Anesthesia, founded in 1989, places physicians and nurse anesthetists in hospitals and surgery centers throughout the United States. For more information please visit [www.nationalanesthesia.com](http://www.nationalanesthesia.com) or [www.nationalphysicianstaffinginc.com](http://www.nationalphysicianstaffinginc.com). For more information on “Operation Iraq: The Spirit of Christmas” visit [www.operationiraq.org](http://www.operationiraq.org).

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