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Colorado Aviation Business Association Delivers 8,000 Pounds of Food and Toys to Veterans in Rural Colorado Communities

Denver, CO – January 31, 2019 – The Colorado Aviation Business Association (CABA) is proud to announce that during the 8th Annual Holiday VFW Airlift delivered just over 8,000 pounds of food, toys, and supplies to over 1,100 veterans and their families during the holiday season. Thirty-six pilots volunteered their time and expenses to the project, which was a collaborative effort between CABA, the VFW, the flying teams of the Metropolitan State University of Denver and volunteer pilots around the state.

Since 2011, the airlift has resulted in the distribution of 41,900 pounds of food and toys to over 3,600 military veterans and their families in rural communities around the state.

Monetary donations from aviation businesses and VFW posts around the state were used to purchase non-perishable food and toys. In addition, several King Soopers and Costco stores also contributed funds as well as a large amount of canned and dry foods.

The goods were transported on Friday, December 7 to the staging and departure site for the airlift, Signature Flight Support at Centennial Airport in Englewood. This is the fourth consecutive year Signature has supported the airlift by donating the use of its hangar and ramp areas.

The airlift was conducted on Sunday, December 9, with 36 pilots donating their time and aircraft expenses to fly the donated goods to 14 rural Colorado towns including Montrose/Delta on the western slope; Durango, Cortez, and Dove Creek in the southwestern area of the state; Alamosa, Pueblo, and Las Animas in southern Colorado; Burlington, Fort Morgan, and Greeley on the eastern plains; and Fort Collins, Longmont, and Erie in northern Colorado.

Thirty-two flights originated at Signature and two additional aircraft were flown from Montrose Airport with goods brought from Centennial Airport. Aircraft were met upon arrival by volunteer teams from the local VFW posts to unload the aircraft and distribute the food and toys to veterans and their families.

About the CABA Charity Drive and VFW Airlift: Beginning in 2011 and every holiday season since then, CABA has partnered with the Flying Teams of MSU Denver and the Veterans of Foreign Wars to collect and distribute non-perishable foods and toys to veterans and their families across Colorado. The project has so far delivered a cumulative 41,900 pounds of food and toys to more than 3,600 Colorado veterans and their families.

About the Colorado Aviation Business Association:

The mission of the Colorado Aviation Business Association is to promote the value of business and general aviation across the State of Colorado. Founded in 1994, the Colorado Aviation Business Association comprises more than 300 businesses and individual members who live and work within the State of Colorado. CABA acts to identify and address issues impacting Colorado Airports including safety and operational efficiency; to educate the general public about all aviation activities in the state; to preserve the state's airport related businesses as valuable economic assets to the community; and to provide for the training of future aviation professionals through the CABA Foundation's scholarship fund. CABA is a 501(c)(6) non-profit corporation, and the CABA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. For more information, visit www.mycaba.org

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Some of the aircraft on the ramp at Signature Flight Support prior to flying in the 2017 CABA-VFW
Holiday Airlift.
(Photo by Ryan Johanns)