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FLORIDA EYE MICROSURGICAL INSTITUTE HOLIDAY COLLECTION DRIVE MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE FORGOTTEN SOLDIERS OUTREACH ORGANIZATION, INC.

December 23rd, 2009, Boynton Beach, FL...John Oldham, a member of the Forgotten Soldiers Outreach Program, Inc. came by Florida Eye Microsurgical Institute in Boynton Beach yesterday expecting to pick up a few bags of items to be sent to U.S. troops overseas. Instead, much to his surprise and pleasure, he told the doctors that there was enough of a collection for at least ten or twelve boxes if not more.

That means that at least a dozen soldiers will be receiving much needed supplies, as well as letters of encouragement, written by elementary school classes and Florida Eye patients. While he was at Florida Eye, Oldham got to meet Barbara Miller, a patient involved in a clinical study trial here. Miller happened to walk in with a donation of supplies just as Oldham himself was coming into the building. "It's nice to be able to thank you in person," Oldham told Miller when he was introduced to her. "It's people like you who truly make a difference." Miller responded by saying she felt her donation wasn't much, but Oldham assured her it certainly was, and every donation, no matter how large or small, was and is always appreciated.

Jason Gorscak, M.D. and Barry Schechter, M.D., F.A.A.O., were also on hand to thank Oldham for the work he does at Forgotten Soldiers. Dr. Schechter, the Institute's Refractive Cataract, Glaucoma, Cornea and External Disease Specialist said it was an honor to be able to help U.S. troops. "This is the least we can do for our

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soldiers who are unselfishly putting the needs of our country in front of their own. We regularly send out artificial tears to our troops in Iraq, so the soldiers have a means of cleansing the debris from their eyes during active duty, but to be able to do something together with the community for such a wonderful cause makes all of us feel good."

This was the first time that Florida Eye held a collection drive for Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, Inc., and the doctors plan to do so again next year. "We've really taken a personal interest in the Forgotten Soldiers Program," said Dr. Gorscak. "We've treated numerous soldiers and veterans at Florida Eye over the years, and we have employees with loved ones overseas, so this program really does have meaning for all of us."

Visit our Facebook page to see photos from our collection drive (http://tinyurl.com/y9gu3mp).

The Florida Eye Microsurgical Institute offers a full range of comprehensive ophthalmologic care, including routine eye care and examinations, pediatric eye care, dry eyes, advanced corneal, retinal and cataract procedures, laser treatments, glaucoma and diabetic procedures, ophthalmic plastics, orbital surgery and various other sophisticated treatments. With its own pediatric wing and fully accredited outpatient surgical center in Boynton Beach, the Institute has additional offices in Boca Raton, Wellington and Juno Beach.

Also at Florida Eye with Doctors Schechter and Gorscak, who specializes in refractive cataract surgery, glaucoma and comprehensive ophthalmology, are Doctors Jonathan Chua, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.S. — general ophthalmology, Randy Katz, M.D. — specializing in Diabetic Retinopathy, Vitreo-Retina, Retinal Detachment & Macular Degeneration, Lee Friedman, M.D. — FL Eye's Pediatric, ROP & Adult Strabismus specialist, & Peter A.D. Rubin, M.D., F.A.C.S. — specializing in Ophthalmic Plastics & Orbital Surgery. For more information on the Institute, its physicians and current clinical trials, please contact Gwen Cohan at (561) 736-5050 or visit www.fleyedocs.com.

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