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Woman Sends Helmet Kits to Soldiers

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A middle Tennessee woman has been trying to make the job safer for troops overseas.

Dr. Hillary Stallings has been raising money for cushioned pads that go into the helmets of soldiers. She got started after sending one of the cushioned kits to her brother, Chris Frey.

He reported how much better his helmet fit because of the new helmet pads.

"Chris has had great training. He's had a wonderful training in the Marines, but he needed just that little bit more, and I thought: 'We need to do this for everybody.' Chris has 35 men reporting to him. We need to do it for all of them," Stallings said.

Stallings became the Tennessee affiliate for the national helmet protection effort, raising money to protect soldiers she's never met.

"I started sending out e-mails, and folks just responded. I think people want to support the troops ... but they don't have any way to do it, and this was an easy way," she said.

The kits cost about \$70 per helmet. Stallings continued raising money to outfit the helmets of the 140 soldiers in her brother's company.

Stallings' next step will be going door-to-door, showing off an article in the school newspaper highlighting her effort, while trying to get businesses to donate to the cause.