In the fourth quarter, Kaiya Armstrong flew a Cessna 172 Skyhawk airplane from Scottsdale, AZ to Washington, D.C. Kaiya is legally blind. In fact, it is reported that she is able to see only two inches in front of her. Her five-day flight was to commemorate World Sight Day as Kaiya made several takeoffs and landings across the country. It was important to her to not place limits on herself and also to be an inspiration to others. Ms. Armstrong was chosen from 25 candidates who competed across three categories for the opportunity. She trained for 120 hours over eight months and made stops in Colorado, Missouri, Kentucky, and, finally, Washington D.C.

The Kingman Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility (KCRF) played a special part in this event with her flight manual and its graphics being transcribed into Braille by several inmates at KCRF. It is such an honor for our Huachuc Unit’s Braille Program to be recognized for this transcription and how we contributed to Ms. Armstrong’s achievement. Although she won’t be able to be a commercial pilot, Ms. Armstrong will be able to have a career as a ground instructor.

Flight for Sight is just one program organized by Arizona’s Foundation for Blind Children. Kingman’s Braille Programs are proud to have contributed to this momentous achievement.

Holiday Spirit Gift Giving from Florence West

Written By Cassandra Shifflett, Florence West Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility

This Holiday season, the staff at Florence West Correctional and Rehabilitation Facility joined together over the course of a few weeks to obtain donations for the Pavilion Oasis Nursing Facility and the Pinal County Animal Shelter. During this time, staff collected more than 70 blankets to provide to the nursing home. In addition, staff collected multiple bags of pet food, blankets, and various items for the animals’ well-being. Both locations were extremely appreciative and grateful for everything we provided.