



Army Reserve Child, Youth & School Services

CYSS CONNECTIONS

CYSS Mission

To support readiness and quality of life by reducing the conflict between military mission requirements and parental responsibilities.

2016 3rd Quarter Issue

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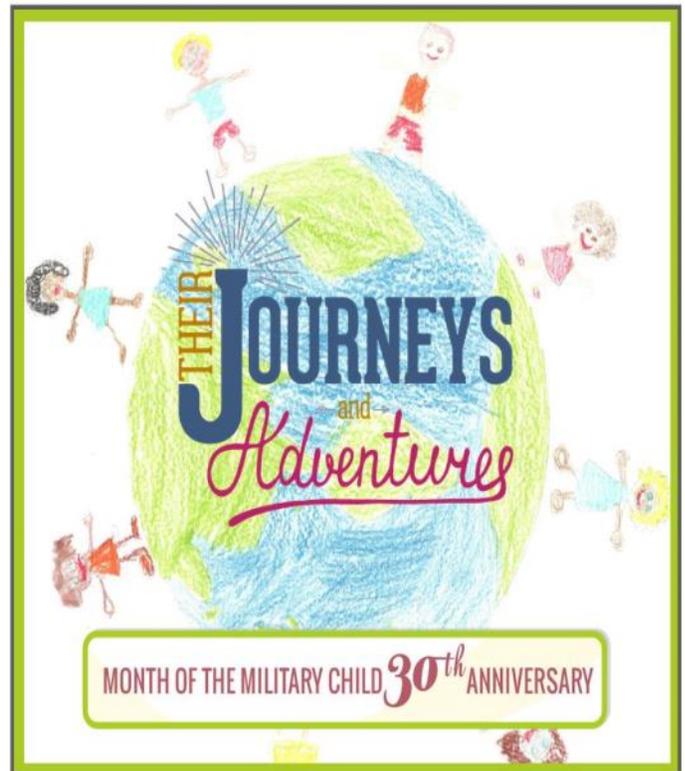
Month of the Military Child Celebration

April marks the 30th anniversary of Month of the Military Child (MOMC). Go to arfp.org to view the video message from Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Talley.

It all began in 1986 when Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger designated each April as a month to recognize and celebrate military children. Today, Month of Military Child (MOMC) continues to be a time to honor military youth for the important role they play in contributing to the strength of the Army Family. It also reaffirms the Army's commitment to ensuring excellence in schools, childcare, and youth services as well as providing a strong supportive environment where children can thrive. This April, over 162,000 Army Reserve children and youth across the nation and overseas will be honored for their sacrifice and resilience.

To celebrate 2016 MOMC, Lt. Gen. Jeffrey and Mrs. Linda Talley have prepared a special surprise for this outstanding group— all Army Reserve children and youth can receive a MOMC letter and signed certificate of appreciation, regardless of location. Those Families attending a Family Programs event will have the opportunity to pick them up from staff. If you are unable to join a Family Programs event, or one is not scheduled near you, request a copy at arfp.org. This year's celebratory events will feature an exclusive video message from the Talley's which will also be viewable online at arfp.org.

Celebrate MOMC with your command, and other military partners such as 4-H as they offer activities and events throughout April recognizing our nation's youngest heroes. Military youth need to connect with others in similar situations as they seek friends and



adults who can empathize and help them cope with their world.

Army CYSS and 4-H have a longstanding partnership, collaborate to provide military connected youth activities. In the month of April many community based organization will host MOMC events, check in your local community for event near you!



Young Lives, Big Stories returns for another year of fun! Army children and youth, pre-K -12th grade, can tell their story on what it means to be a military child, through drawings or words, for a chance to win spectacular prizes!

To enter, participants can visit a CYSS office or armymwr.com/MOMC for rules to submit their

A Glimpse Back...2015

Looking at MOMC events last year gives Families a glimpse of what to expect in 2016.



(left) Elijah H. of the 79th SSC participates in an experiment with an instructor from the Discovery Cube. during the 2015 MOMC celebration; (right) CYSS and 4-H Team up to provide a day of learning at Atlanta's Outdoor Classroom for the 335th 2015 MOMC Celebration.

(top) 103rd ESC MOMC celebration in Iowa with a museum visit; (bottom) SSG Franco of the 99th RSC teaches youth attending "MOMC Take Your Kid to Work Day" how to stand at attention.



This information has been provided by Army Reserve Child, Youth & School Services. For more information on resources and programs, please visit: ARFP.org/CYSS

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Army Volunteer Appreciation Week

“Lifting spirits, touching lives” — The Army celebrates Volunteer Appreciation Week 10-16 April.

Army Volunteer Appreciation Week is a time to celebrate people's extraordinary accomplishments through service. It is also a time when the Army Reserve recognizes volunteers for their untiring volunteer support to Army communities.

As Family Programs and Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS) celebrates Volunteer Appreciation Week, we pay tribute to those who help ensure our children and youth stay resilient. We recognize that volunteering takes place in many forms, whether it is spending an hour reading a book to children at the local library, or mentoring youth at a local Boys & Girls Club, it is important to give back. These acts of kindness and generosity help communities such as the military stand together, grow stronger, and more resilient. We admire people like this – people dedicating their time or talent to positively impact their community. It is their desire to make the world a better place. To each and every volunteer, Family Programs says thank you.

CYSS also encourages volunteering as a core value, and incorporates it into many facets of programming for children and youth. For example, service learning opportunities are planned during Youth Leadership, Education and Development (YLEAD) trainings to teach the importance of teamwork and finishing tasks. Service learning blends what is learned during YLEAD trainings with a community service component. Youth are actively engaged in a "hands-on" experience applying knowledge, skills, critical thinking, and wise judgement to address real community needs.



Past service events have ranged from beach, park and river cleanup to working at an educational teaching farm.

After attending a YLEAD, many of these youth have made a pledge to get involved and continue their service. They devote their time to take the action necessary to correct problems they see in their Army Reserve community. Many elect to get involved with their command teen council, or by volunteering at Family Days and sharing a common experience with fellow military youth. As a Family Programs volunteer, youth receive volunteer service hours for their work, and gain applicable life experience.



Alexis W. (USACAPOC) writes on her YLEAD experience: "The River Cleanup (service learning project) was the most fun... You were with all the new friends you made and it turned out better than expected. I got a sort of pride knowing that I helped the community... It was 100 percent different than what I expected and it was an experience that I will always remember, and be glad I didn't stay home."

Volunteerism can be a great way for children and youth to develop a skill, make friends, gain personal and/or professional growth, or even change a routine. There are many volunteer opportunities to fit any interest or skill set. Check out how Khortney H., former 108th Teen Council member, volunteers her time as an adult mentor on the next page. .)

(Left) Caleb S., 94th Training Division, makes minor repairs to the fence on the grounds of the Bethesda, Md. Fisher House, which provides free temporary lodging to military veterans and Family members while their loved ones receive care at nearby Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. (Right) Kaneasha J. from the 80th TC and Jessica I. from the 364th ESC, paint a fence during the joint Teen Council service learning project.



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CYSS Volunteer Highlight

“Lifting spirits, touching lives”

Adult Volunteer Mentor - 108th Training Command



Ms. Khortney H. is the Adult Volunteer Mentor representing the 108th Training Command (IET). She was first introduced to Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS) in 2006, when participating in various CYSS activities and command events as an Army Reserve (AR) dependent. Like many AR dependents, Khortney has lived the life of an AR Family member, geographically separated from an Army installation and other Army Families, and understands what is involved in packing up and moving from something familiar to something entirely brand new. After her Soldier and Family completed a permanent change of station (PCS) move to Virginia, where Khortney graduated from high school, she returned to the North Carolina area and has been actively volunteering with the 108th Training Command (IET).

As a mentor, she has exceeded command expectations with her commitment to support the command and youth. Her dedication to the mission of the 108th Teen Council is exceptional, and her energetic and positive personality is contagious. Khortney serves as the first line of contact for the teen council members. She conducts monthly outreach and marketing calls, provides information on volunteer opportunities, and encourages youth to remain on track with their monthly requirements and school work.

She has led youth webinars focusing on volunteering in the command and community. She has also volunteered with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), packing care packages for Soldiers overseas and coordinating letters for veterans. Khortney is finishing her junior year in college majoring in middle grades education with concentrations in history and science, and minors in Spanish and urban youth communities.

When asked why she chose to stay involved and volunteer with CYSS, Khortney responded, "I remember how much it helped me when I was younger. My experience was different in a lot of ways from the teens participating in different CYSS events (now), but that's just a testament to how much it has grown and adapted. CYSS is focused on the teens and kids who are an integral part of the Army/Army Reserve community, and that was a nice feeling—to be recognized for what you have to go through, not just your Soldier. It has been full circle for me; I've experienced firsthand the way that CYSS programs have helped me and I want to help kids and teens in similar situations feel as comfortable and confident as CYSS has made me feel. Through CYSS, I've learned when to take charge and when to fall back. I've learned to have confidence in myself, and to use that confidence when speaking, whether it's to one person or an entire room, no matter how much it may terrify me. And I've learned how to delegate. Outside of that, CYSS provides affirmation that everything that we feel as military youth is valid. These are things that CYSS programs have taught me and continue to teach military youth across the country."



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CYSS Volunteer Highlight

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Command Teen Council - Youth Volunteer



Emily L., representing the 75th Training Command Southern Division, became a teen council member in 2014 in hopes to connect with other Army teens, and come up with ideas to solve some of the issues Army teens face. As a Teen Council member, Emily was an active participant in the inaugural 75th TC Teen Council training held in conjunction with the Midwest Youth Leadership, Education and Development (YLEAD) Summit in Chicago, IL in August 2014. During the training, the teen council members worked with Project YES and learned about different types of leadership opportunities as well as ways to sharpen their public speaking skills. In July 2015, Emily participated in a Joint Teen Council Training along with youth from the 412th TEC and 80th TC held in Arlington, Virginia. During this training, council members learned about developing resilience, effective communication skills, and completed a service learning project at The Fisher House Foundation in Bethesda, Maryland. Emily is a consistent participant on the monthly conference calls, and has worked to acclimate newer members to the group by

lending a listening ear to their questions. As a Joint Teen Council participant, Emily had the opportunity to be a part of a ceremony at The Twilight Tattoo where Lt. Gen. Jeffrey W. Talley took time out to take a picture with the teens and staff members.

Emily is a student at Klein Forest High School and has a passion for art. She recently won two medals at the Regional Texas Art Education Association - Visual Arts Scholastic event and has advanced to the final state competition in San Antonio. She is a member of the National Art Honor Society and student council as well as an active community volunteer. Emily shared, “It has been an honor for me to have the opportunity to participate on the 75th Teen Council and work with the wonderful staff here. I love meeting so many other great teens, all part of this wonderful organization. I hope all the teens know that the family support staff works hard to provide information and opportunities to make life better for all of us. So, thank you very much for being supportive and mentoring me, and I will pass it forward to be supportive and mentor someone else.”

“Lifting spirits, touching lives”

Army Reserve Teen Panel - Junior Advisor

Garrett M. is a member of the Army Reserve Teen Panel (ARTP) representing the 11th AVN. Since joining in April 2014, Garrett has volunteered as a junior advisor at Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS) Youth Enrichment Programs, unit Family Days, and Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Programs. As a junior advisor, Garrett helps facilitate team-building activities, hunting the good stuff with Teen Resilience Training (TRT) and group games. Most recently, Garrett attended the College Readiness and Financial Aid webinar and has been an active member of the Teen Council webinars.

Garrett is currently a senior in high school and has taken 13 Advanced Placement classes with a 4.34 Grade Point Average (weighted). He was named a finalist for the Grawemeyer Scholars Program at the University of Louisville, a research-based program, he serves as the captain of DuPont Manual Speech Team, and is a 2016 National Merit Finalist. In the fall he will attend the University of Louisville to study electrical engineering with a focus in nano-power systems and control systems research.



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Youth Programming Highlight

Summer Program Opportunities

Camp opportunities through military partners in your area.

With spring in full swing, it's time to start scheduling summer programs for your Family. Fun, educational summer activities can help your children avoid the academic "summer slide" by keeping their brains active, and providing opportunities for them to travel, connect with other military children, and gain new experiences.

4-H Camping Opportunities - Camp can be a life-changing experience for your child, fostering quality bonds between peers, character development, healthy habits, independence, and resilience. 4-H offers day and overnight camps that provide fun, hands-on, experience-based learning. Each camp is unique, but many offer similar activities and resources, including: archery, school enrichment, challenge courses, hiking trails, outdoor education, and team building. (In certain states, non-4-H members can attend 4-H camp.) Please contact your local 4-H office at

4-h.org/get-involved/find-4-h-clubs-camps-programs.

Military Teen Adventure Camps - Military teens (14-18 years old) interested in high energy, high adventure, and high experience camps have an opportunity to participate in Military Teen Adventure Camps offered at little to no cost across the U.S. Each camp is different, and allows youth to build leadership, self-confidence, and teamwork skills, while participating in a unique outdoor experience, traditional camp activities, and building relationships with other military-connected teens. Visit

ag.purdue.edu/extension/adventurecamps.

YMCA - The YMCA has more than 130 years of experience in providing a safe, thriving environment for young people to explore personal interests, build self-esteem, develop interpersonal skills, discover the creativity and health benefits of the outdoors, and make lasting friendships and memories. To join the experience, find your camp at ymca.net/find-a-camp/

Operation Purple Camps - The National Military Family Association has collaborated with outstanding camp partners to continue supporting military kids by providing a camp where they connect with other kids just like them. At Operation Purple Camp, we embrace being "purple" and bring together military kids from all ranks and services, including National Guard and Reserve components, to a unique and memorable summer camp experience. Visit militaryfamily.org for more information.

Camp Corral is a free, one-of-a-kind summer camp for children of wounded, disabled or fallen military service members. Since its founding, in 2011 as a one camp pilot program, Camp Corral has grown over 700%. Over 6,500 children have been served and the program has expanded to 23 camps in 19 states. Although any child from a military family is eligible, registration priority is given to children of wounded, disabled or fallen military service members. campcorral.org/



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Military Partner Highlight

Supporting Military Youth During a Move

Relocation can prove to be a very challenging and stressful time for all involved. However, there are significant resources available to benefit the Family during their relocation and transitioning period.



The Interstate Compact

MIC3

The Interstate Compact was established by the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) in 2014 as a means of eradicating many challenges that military students and their Families may inevitably face during their transition to new schools. The goal of MIC3 is to replace the widely varying policies affecting transitioning military students. The Compact leverages consistency; it uses a comprehensive approach that provides a consistent policy in every school district and in every state. The Compact addresses key educational transition issues encountered by military Families including enrollment, placement, attendance, eligibility, and graduation. Visit mic3.net/ for additional information about what is included under MIC3, and to get a listing of the Compact representatives for your respective state. Children of active duty members of the uniformed services, National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders, and members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year are eligible for assistance under the Compact.

SchoolQuest.org

SchoolQuest.org is an initiative of the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC). Their mission is to help ease school transitions for all military Families, whether it is moving across town, across the nation, or across the world. SchoolQuest.org wants to help military students, their Families, and the caring professionals who support them. The website houses an array of beneficial information and tips to help with adjustments in a new school environment. The website also offers suggestions to help military Families with all aspects of transitioning to a new

place, including specific tips on what they can do before and during the move to help with preparation and to relieve stress. SchoolQuest.org also provides information on the Common Core State Standards Initiative, which helps to ensure that students receive the same quality education on a consistent basis during their transition from school to school. Additionally, the website features a section for finding and comparing schools in different areas to include military installations, as well as checklists that students and parents can utilize to help with transitioning. Visit schoolquest.org/ for helpful information on transitioning students to a new school.



Military Kids Connect

Military Kids Connect (MKC) is an online-based community that serves military children ages 6-17 as well as provides support for their parents, caregivers, and educators. MKC provides age-appropriate resources to support youth in coping with various unique psychological challenges associated with the military lifestyle. It also has resources to help children face and overcome the difficulties of Family transitions, such as deployment and relocation. MKC offers an array of informative activities, interactive games and videos, and an online community that can help children understand resilience and gain coping skills. Visit militarykidsconnect.dcoe.mil/ to learn about the great resources MKC has available for military children and youth to interact with their peers.



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Happy Birthday Army and Army Reserve!

The Army has always served proudly, faithfully, selflessly — and we remain steadfast in our commitment.

On June 14, 1775 our nation's leaders established the Continental Army to fight against British forces during the American Revolutionary War. During this time, George Washington, who later became America's first president, was appointed as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. As conflict emerged throughout the U.S. territories, the Continental Army was reorganized to help combat America's adversaries, thus being renamed as The United States Army in 1796.

The Army Reserve was founded April 23, 1908, when Congress authorized the Army to establish a Medical Reserve Corps, the official predecessor of the Army Reserve. Over the years, Army Reserve Soldiers have participated in every major military campaign to include: World War I, World War II, Korean War, Cold War, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, and the Global War on Terrorism. Today, approximately 200,000 Army Reserve Soldiers serve around the globe.

Although the Army has undergone many changes over time, one thing remains unyielding- its tradition. Today, the Army is the strategic landpower of the joint force; called upon to prevent, shape, and win against our adversaries. Each year, many men and women

bravely enlist into the Army and Army Reserve, take an oath to serve and protect by putting their missions first, and upholding the Army's values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

This year, the Army celebrates 241 years of selfless service to the Nation; the Army Reserve marks 108 years of providing life-saving and life-sustaining forces for Joint Force operations. The Army continues to serve the United States with extraordinary Soldiers, Families, and civilians, who display exceptional character in defense of our Nation. The liberties that Americans are accustomed to are made possible by the exceptional service that our Armed Forces provide. As we answer the nation's call, we remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in our fight for freedom.



How Well Do You Know Your Nation's Army?

- 1) When was the Women's Army Corps allowed to serve in the regular Army?
 - A. 1946
 - B. 1972
 - C. 1960
 - D. 1985
- 2) With the birth of the US Army being June 14, 1775, when did the US Army flag originate?
 - A. February 22, 1951
 - B. July 4, 1763
 - C. June 14, 1956
 - D. June 14, 1775
- 3) What do the current 188 streamers on the US Army flag represent?
 - A. They represent fallen heroes of the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812.
 - B. They denote the campaigns fought by the Army throughout our nation's history.
 - C. They represent the number of presidents and vice presidents throughout our nation's history.
 - D. None of the above.
- 4) During what war was the highest military award for a Soldier, the first Army Medal of Honor, awarded?
 - A. Revolutionary War
 - B. World War I
 - C. American Civil War
 - D. World War II
- 5) When was the Army Reserve founded?
 - A. August 4, 1790
 - B. September 18, 1947
 - C. January 2, 1918
 - D. April 23, 1908
- 6) The third woman to pass Ranger school is an Army Reservist.
 - A. True
 - B. False
- 7) "Doughboy" refers to Soldiers who served in which Army campaign?
 - A. The War of 1812
 - B. Vietnam
 - C. World War I
 - D. Desert Storm
- 8) The Reserve component of the Army (Guard/Reserve) is larger than the Active Army.
 - A. True
 - B. False
- 9) Approximately, what percentage of the Army is comprised of women?
 - A. 10
 - B. 16
 - C. 12
 - D. 33
- 10) What light utility vehicle replaced the Jeep?
 - A. Stryker
 - B. The Crusader
 - C. Humvee
 - D. HEMTT
- 11) The modern Army Reserve is comprised of how many military occupational specialty fields?
 - A. 76
 - B. 104
 - C. 131
 - D. 148

Answers: 1) A 2) C 3) B 4) C 5) D 6) A 7) C 8) A 9) B 10) C 11) D



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