



Michigan National Guard Child & Youth Program Monthly

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A Message From Your Child and Youth Program Staff

As part of the contract under which the National Guard Child and Youth Program operates, we have been asked to survey Families who have utilized Child and Youth Program resources and services (Camps, Resiliency Trainings, Yellow Ribbon Youth Programming, contacted us for resources, newsletter, etc.) from the period of **1 October 2015 to present**. The purpose of this survey is to gather valuable information related to current strengths of the program as well as areas where continued development could be targeted for improvement. Ultimately, our goal is to ensure the state/territory Child and Youth Program is adequately meeting the needs of our military-connected population.



We invite you to take a few minutes (10-15) to complete the Family Member Satisfaction Survey online. You may do this by clicking on the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016CYSSFamilysurvey>

Information gathered from this survey is completely anonymous and will only be used to improve services provided by the Child and Youth Program at the state/territory and national levels. If you are unable to complete the survey online, a PDF version is available, please contact us for a copy!

Thank you for allowing us to serve your family! ~Angie & Traci

Save the Date!!

April is Month of the Military Child!!

The Child & Youth Program is planning events across the state so please watch future newsletters for all the details!

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Upcoming Events: February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2  Groundhog Day	3 Youth Council Conference Call	4	5	6 182nd During Deployment Yellow Ribbon Event
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 182nd During Deployment Yellow Ribbon Event
14  Valentine's Day	15 Presidents' Day CLOSED	16 During Deployment Webinar Series	17	18	19	20 OOL-16 During Deployment Yellow Ribbon Event
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29				26-28: Youth Council Meeting	

2/3: **Youth Council Conference Call:** Please contact Angie or Traci if you want to know more about the Youth Council.

2/15: **Presidents' Day:** Family Programs Office Closed

2/16: **Michigan During Deployment Monthly Webinar Series:** (7:00pm) <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5325254044068048129>. Join us for this Coping With Deployment webinar to discover resources that can help you during a deployment cycle. We will also have some tips on how to create emergency kits for your office, vehicle and home. Please direct any questions or topic suggestions to: april.clipper@militaryonesource.com. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

2/26-28: **Youth Council Meeting:** Please contact Angie or Traci if you want to know more about the Youth Council.

During Deployment Yellow Ribbon Events: These events are for anyone who has a service member deployed and would like to learn about resources available to them. Pre-registration is required. Locations: 2/6-Bay City, MI; 2/13- Troy, MI; 2/20- Lansing, MI. Please contact the Family Programs office at 517-481-9893 for more information.

Detroit Arsenal Middle School & Teen Afterschool Program

Military and DOD Civilians with 4-H & BGCA Clubs

February 2016



For more information, please contact the
MST Program staff at 586-719-8648/586-719-8235 or the
director-
Teresa Brodsky at 586-855-3610 / teresa.j.brodsky.naf@mail.mil



Get updated trip info on the MST FB Page- Detroit
CYSS Teens

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CLOSED	1 Afterschool Program	2 Tech Wizards 5:30p-7:30p @ AB MS South 5:30-7:30pm L'Anse Creuse MS Central	3 Keystone Club Meeting 5:30-7:30pm L'Anse Creuse MS Central 	4 Tech Wizards 5p-7p @ LC MS Central 5:30-7:30pm Anchor Bay MS South	5 Afterschool Program CLOSED and no Friday Open Rec-Staff Training ALL DAY!	6 CLOSED
7 The Sphinx Competition-Orchestra Hall-Detroit 12pm-5pm FREE! Life Edge Meet at SANGB VC	8 Afterschool Program The Sphinx Competition is a strings music event for youth ages 14-22. Attendees will watch youth compete for scholarships.	9 Tech Wizards 5:30p-7:30p @ AB MS South 5:30-7:30pm L'Anse Creuse MS Central	10 Keystone Teambuilding 6:00-9:00pm TBA Bring \$ for food Fit & Adventure Edge	11 Tech Wizards 5p-7p @ LC MS Central 5:30-7:30pm Anchor Bay MS South	12 Afterschool Program CLOSED (mid-winter break) OPEN REC @ DTA CDC ages 5-13	13 Oakland County Food pantry & The Art Experience 9:30am-5pm \$15 plus money for lunch Life & Art Edge Meet at SANGB VC
14 CLOSED	15 CLOSED In Celebration 	16 Afterschool Program OPEN at LC! 5:30-7:30pm L'Anse Creuse MS Central	17 Keystone Club Meeting 5:30-7:30pm L'Anse Creuse MS Central 	18 Tech Wizards 5p-7p @ LC MS Central 5:30-7:30pm Anchor Bay MS South	19 Friday Open Rec LC/AB 1800-2200 \$10 Trip location TBA Trip	20 Capuchin Soup Kitchen Warehouse 8am-1pm FREE! Money for lunch Life Edge Meet at SANGB VC
21 CLOSED To support healthy heart month, please note that events with the red ribbon promote stress relief, fitness, and wellness among youth.	22 Afterschool Program Open	23 Tech Wizards 5:30p-7:30p @ AB MS South 5:30-7:30pm L'Anse Creuse MS Central	24 Afterschool Program Open	25 Tech Wizards 5p-7p @ LC MS Central 5:30-7:30pm Anchor Bay MS South	26 Friday Open Rec LC/AB 1800-2200 \$10 Trip location TBA Trip	27-28 Snowshoeing and Winter Survival Skills OAC Winter Trip 10am Saturday to 3pm Sunday \$25 Fit & Adventure Edge Meet at SANGB VC

Best Snowman Competition

Now through Friday, March 18th, 2016,
show us your snowman-building skills!

Submit a picture of your best snowman to
Family Programs, and may the best one
win!

Voting will take place the week of March
21-25.

Snowmen may be built outside or inside—
they don't have to be made of snow!

Families, units, departments, and groups of
friends are all encouraged to participate!

Submit pictures to the
Family Programs Office,
our Facebook page, or
ng.mi.miarnj.mbx.family-programs@mail.mil





Are you or your spouse deploying overseas?
Do you have children who play sports?
Or do they take dance, music, or art classes?
Would they like to try something new... like karate or camp?
Could your child benefit from a tutor to stay at grade level?

If the answer is YES to any of these questions, **Our Military Kids** may be able to help.

Our Military Kids pays for children ages 3 through 12th grade of deployed National Guard and Reserve personnel to participate in youth sports, fine arts, and tutoring programs. This is a way of recognizing the sacrifices the entire family is making while the service member is deployed overseas.

It is simple to apply to the program...

Just fill out an Our Military Kids application that can be downloaded from our website, www.ourmilitarykids.org. Send it in with the required documentation listed on the application, including deployment orders, proof of the child's dependent status, and cost information for the activity of your choice. The grant will cover up to six months of instruction for the activity you select, with a maximum grant award of \$500 per child. If everything is in order and funding is available, a check will be sent to the organization within two weeks. The child will be notified via mail with an award packet. Please see the Frequently Asked Questions on the next page for further program details.



For more information, or to apply, please visit: <http://ourmilitarykids.org/>

Four Things to do in the Four Years Before College (Cont'd)

(continued from page 5) A PLUS Loan is available to parents with good credit histories; parents can borrow up to the full cost of their child's education. Currently, the PLUS Loan has a fixed interest rate of 6.84%. The unsubsidized Stafford and PLUS Loans are available without regard to financial need. In addition to loans, your child should spend time in high school researching scholarships. There are several free scholarship websites that let your child tailor his or her search by interests and abilities. Obviously, scholarships are the preferred method of college funding because they don't need to be repaid.

- Talk to your child about college costs—At some point during junior or senior year, it's important to have a frank conversation with your child about college costs. Tell your child how much you expect to have saved, and how much you will be able to contribute each year during college. If costs exceed what you can pay, explain that the rest will need to be borrowed by either you or your child, or covered by a scholarship, grant, or work-study job. When talking about loans, show your child exactly how much a certain amount will cost to repay each month over a 10-year period. For example, a \$31,000 loan (the current max in federal Stafford Loans that can be borrowed over four years) at 4.29% interest will cost \$318 each month. The idea is to take an abstract loan amount and break it down into a figure--and monthly obligation--your child can understand. Ultimately, as the parent, it's up to you to make sure your child does not go into too much debt to pay for college.
- Research colleges wisely—In addition to thinking about the qualities of his or her ideal college (e.g., geographic region, setting, size), your child should develop a list of colleges that are a good match for his or her academic abilities, interests, and talents. To maximize the chances of receiving a favorable aid package, consider your child's academic profile--by looking at GPA, class rank, and SAT/ACT scores--and encourage your child to apply to at least a few colleges where his or her academic credentials are better than those of the average admitted student.

See more at:

<http://www.360financialliteracy.org/Topics/Paying-for-Education/Preparing-for-College/Four-Things-to-Do-in-the-Four-Years-Before-College>



Study ID: HUM00050201 IRB: IRBMED Date Approved: 5/19/2015 Expiration Date: 11/17/2016

A free program for
Military and Veteran
Spouses/Partners

HomeFront STRONG

Building Resilient Military Families

HomeFront Strong is an 8-week program to help military or veteran spouses/partners prepare for, cope with, or rebound from the challenges of deployment and military life.

New groups starting soon!

DINNER PROVIDED

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Participants can receive up to \$140 for attending the group
and completing a research evaluation of the program

Please call Jodi Bachrach
at (734) 998-5849 or email jbachrac@med.umich.edu
to register or for more information

ROBERT R.
McCORMICK
FOUNDATION



ETHEL & JAMES
FLINN FOUNDATION



Scholarship Opportunities

Paying for college is hard, but finding scholarships doesn't have to be. Niche provides a scholarship search engine that students and families are able to browse through general scholarships or choose from several categories including by state, major and **military affiliation**.

Please visit: <https://colleges.niche.com/scholarships/> to start your scholarship search today!

Military Kids Connect



Kids Deploy Too!
MilitaryKidsConnect.org

Military Kids Connect is a frequently updated, Department of Defense website designed to help military children support one another and learn coping and resilience-building skills that will help them thrive amid the many changes of military life. The site is broken up into age categories so users are directed to age appropriate information. They have tough topic videos, stress management, arts and craft ideas, printable activities and online games and a comic book maker. The comic creator is under the "tell your story" section. There is also a section for educators, parents and caregivers. The educator section has lesson plans, military culture videos and information on how to work with military children. Explore this great resource at: <http://militarykidsconnect.t2.health.mil/>

Our Military Kids



Our Military Kids, offers \$500 grants to the children of our deployed services members for a number of extra curricular activities.

To see the full list of eligible activities and to apply, please visit:
www.ourmilitarykids.org/

Sittercity

Sittercity Military Program helps you find the perfect sitter for your family. Memberships to Sittercity are fully paid for by the Department of Defense for: Army, Marine, Navy, Air Force; Including Active Duty, Reserve and Guard!



For more information, please visit:
<https://www.sittercity.com/dod>

Tutor.com for US Military Families

The Department of Defense provides online tutoring and homework help from Tutor.com at no cost to eligible grades K-12 students in National Guard, Reserve and active duty Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps families. Some adults are also eligible for college and career transition help. Tutor.com for Military Families allows students to connect to a live tutor online at any time for one-to-one help with homework, studying, test prep, proofreading and more. Eligible students can create an account and log in at www.tutor.com/military.

Access to Tutor.com for Military Families is free 24 hours a day, seven days a week—no appointment needed. Regardless of where they attend school, students worldwide can access the online service using any internet-enabled device, including smart phones.

Go to www.tutor.com/military/eligibility to see who is eligible to access Tutor.com for Military Families.

Babies on the Homefront App



Babies on the Homefront App Now Available!

ZERO TO THREE has developed a great new resource, *Babies on the Homefront*. This free app for smart-phones, available in both English and Spanish on iTunes and the Google Play store, is designed especially for Military and Veteran Families as they navigate the many transitions that are part of serving, including deployment and reintegration, moving, and transitioning back to civilian life. The app makes it easy to select from behavior tips and activities for parents and children, with a special section for parental self-care. This product was made available through a generous grant from the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Learn more at www.babiesonthefront.org or download your free app today!

Kids Korner: Jokes & Featured Reading

Q: What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?

A: I'm stuck on you!

Q: What did the elephant say to his girlfriend on Valentine's Day?

A: I love you a ton!

Q: Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?

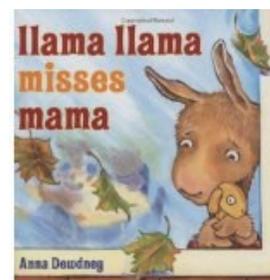
A: Sure, they're very scent-imental!

Llama Llama Misses Mama

By: Anna Dewdney

Llama Llama is attending preschool for the first time! Learn about how Llama Llama feels when he misses his mama during the school day.

Want to find activities during any stage of deployment that relate to this book? Please visit: [Military Family Book Sheets](#).



Other Important People

Raphael Weaver

Family Assistance Coordinator
517-481-9889

raphael.r.weaver.ctr@mail.mil

April Clipper

Military OneSource
989-415-9846

april.clipper@militaryonesource.com

Kendra Moyses

4-H Military Partnerships
517-432-7654

kmoyses@anr.msu.edu

For information regarding Family Readiness Groups, please call the Family Programs Office at:
517-481-9893

Military Family Life Consultants

Please contact the Family Programs Office at 517-481-9893 or your local Family Assistance Specialist for an up to date list of counseling resources.

Featured Resource

Find us on Facebook!

Find us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/

[MiNationalGuardChildAndYouthPrograms](#)

and like our page!



Want to be added to the newsletter email list?? Send Traci an email and she would be happy to add you!!