



Military Community & Family Policy

# Supporting Military Children in School Settings DCoE Webinar

*28 April 2011*

*Barbara Thompson, Director  
Office of Family Policy/Children and Youth*

*Kathleen Facon, Chief  
Educational Partnerships, DoDEA*



## *K-12 Education*

- There are approximately 1.25 million school age children. The vast majority attend public schools.
  - Military children attend schools in more than 600 public school districts in 47 states and DC.
  - A substantial minority (about 250,000) attend school in one of only 25 public school districts in 11 states.
- Currently student level data is not collected on military children, therefore little is known about their academic performance.
- DoD has sought the support of the Department of Education in seeking a means of collecting and reporting data around the performance of military-connected children as part of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
- This data is critical to directing resources to support military children's education.



# Educational Partnerships

## *Keeping Students at the Center*

- Through legislative authority DoDEA has been provided the opportunity to champion quality educational opportunities for all military children.
- The mission of the Educational Partnership Program is to champion a world class education for military children in public schools by supporting military-connected local education agencies (LEAs).
- Through relationships and experience, we share resources
  - to assist military children in their transitions to different schools;
  - to sharpen the expertise of teachers and administrators in meeting the needs of military children
  - to educate parents on the LEAs academic requirements, and;
  - to provide assistance to LEAs on deployment support for military children.



# Educational Partnerships

## *Keeping Students at the Center*

- In June 2008, a Memorandum of Understanding was established creating a formal partnership between DoD and the Department of Education to support the education of military students.
- The Partnership Program developed “*Students at the Center,*” to assist the education community in understanding the unique issues of military children.
- The Partnership Program provides Special Education professional development to public school educators through a set of 16 modules and a summer workshop series.
- The Partnership Program has a grant program and awarded three-year grants to two consecutive cohorts of LEAs to support improved academic programs for military children.
  - Some grants focus specifically on easing the challenges that military students face due to transitions and deployments, including a consortium grant with USC and 8 districts in San Diego. The grant seeks to build capacity to improve school climate as well as social and academic results in schools serving military children.



# Continuum of Support: K-12 Education

- DoD has made the Tutor.com for Military Families program available to military students in grades K-12
  - The program provides individualized homework help and tutoring from professional tutors. The program is available online and on demand—no appointments needed.
- DoD also assists in providing transition and deployment support to extend the Military and Family Life Consultant, which provides non-medical, short term counseling services, to both DoDEA schools and military-connected public schools.
- DoD supports the initiative of the Military Child Education Coalition and the American Association of Colleges of Teachers Education in improving and increasing the support capacity of education professional who serve military connected students.



# Youth Programs

- 350 programs for youth ages 6-18 that promote positive youth development.
- *Military Youth on the Move* provides youth with creative ways to cope with challenges related to moving (<http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/myom>).
- *Mission Youth Outreach* allows geographically dispersed Active, Guard, and Reserve youth to attend a local Boys & Girls Club at no cost to the family.
- *Operation Military Kids* is an initiative with the 4-H that supports military kids impacted by deployment and those geographically dispersed from military installations.



# School Age Care (SAC) Program

- SAC program provides care to children, kindergarten to 12 years of age before and after school, and during holidays and summer vacations. SAC is considered a component of the child development program (CDP) system of care.
- Who is eligible? All active duty members, DoD civilians, and activated or deployed National Guard and Reserve members.
- Available worldwide on military installations and in the community.
- For more information see MilitaryINSTALLATIONS directory at <http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil>



# Y.E.S.

- **Y.E.S.** (Youth Extension Service) provides college students with an opportunity to commit to a year of service on behalf of military families
- Managed by North Carolina State University and training provided by the General Hugh Shelton Leadership School
- Y.E.S. interns are selected from across the nation and all related expenses are paid through NC State
- Focused on assisting Yellow Ribbon and other programs in offering fun, educational experiences for military youth
- For more information contact [jcjohns7@ncsu.edu](mailto:jcjohns7@ncsu.edu) or visit <http://militaryfamilies.extension.org/yes-intern-program/>





# Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)

- An extension of existing installation services, MFLC counseling services are designed to help service members and their families cope with normal reactions to adverse circumstances associated with the military lifestyle, particularly deployment-related challenges.
- MFLCs are available worldwide:
  - In installation-based activities and programs, CDCs and Youth Centers
  - Through the Joint Family Support Assistance Program
  - At summer camps
  - In elementary, middle and high schools
- Allows for flexible and responsive service delivery when and where services are needed.



# Operation: Military Kids

- **2011 Operation Military Kids Camps**

- 233 camping experiences for the children, youth and families of all military services experiencing deployment.

[www.operationmilitarykids.org](http://www.operationmilitarykids.org)

- For a complete list of camps by state:

[https://www.operationmilitarykids.org/resources/2011\\_OSD\\_OMK\\_Camp\\_Promotion\\_Chart\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.operationmilitarykids.org/resources/2011_OSD_OMK_Camp_Promotion_Chart_FINAL.pdf)



# MilitaryOneSource.com

A screenshot of the MilitaryOneSource.com website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar shows the URL: http://www.militaryonesource.com/NO5/ServiceProviders.aspx?NRRole=ServiceProvider&amp;branch=AirForce&amp;Component=Active. The website header includes the MilitaryOneSource.com logo, a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Find Information, Tools, and Online Community, and a search bar. The main content area is titled "Service Provider Home" and features a "Private Help 24/7" sidebar with contact information (1.800.342.9647) and options for counseling and e-mail. The central text describes the service as a 24/7 resource for military members, spouses, and families, and lists various resources like a 2011 Communication Calendar, Events and Presentations, and Orderable Materials. A "Health and Wellness" section includes a photo of a family and text about emotional health. The right sidebar contains social media links for Facebook and Twitter, and a "Branch Home Pages" section with links for Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. The footer of the browser window shows the taskbar with open applications like Microsoft Outlook and PowerPoint, and the system tray with the time 4:03 PM and a "UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO" label.



# Deployment Resources

A screenshot of the Military OneSource website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar shows the URL: http://www.militaryonesource.com/Content/Information/Category.aspx?CategoryID=133. The website header includes the Military OneSource logo, the tagline "A 24/7 Resource for Military Members, Spouses &amp; Families", and the phone number 1.800.342.9647. Navigation buttons for Home, About, Find Information, Tools, and Online Community are visible. A search bar is located below the navigation. The main content area is titled "Deployment" and features a "Private Help 24/7" sidebar with the phone number 1.800.342.9647 and options for "Counseling" and "E-mail and get answers". The central text under "Deployment" includes "Guard / Reserve On-Site Commissary Sales" with a description and a "Find out more" link, and "Deployment and Return" with links for "Dealing with Deployment", "Preparing for Deployment", "Reentry Issues", and "Returning from Deployment". A "Resources" sidebar on the right lists "DoD and Branch Resources", "Yellow Ribbon Newsletter", "Returning From the War Zone: A Guide for Families", "MilitaryHOMEFRONT", and "Featured Military OneSource Articles" with several article titles. The footer contains navigation links for "Military Members", "Military Families", "Guard/Reserve", "Service Providers", "Coast Guard Assistance", and "Civilian Expeditionary Workforce", along with the phone number 1.800.342.9647 and a "UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO" label.





# Questions?

Barbara.Thompson@osd.mil

Kathleen.Facon@hq.dodea.edu