## WORKING WITH DILITARY KIDS: WHAT EDUCATORS NEED TO KNOW



#### **Operation: Military Kids (OMK)**

#### Ohio National Guard (ONG)

ONG Youth Program is part of Family Readiness and Warrior Support

#### Ohio 4-H

OMK is part of Ohio State University's 4-H Youth Development program





### MISSION

The mission of the Ohio National Guard's Education Outreach Program is to identify military connected youth in the schools and provide them, their families, and their educators with the information, resources, training, and opportunities to ensure their success in school and in life.



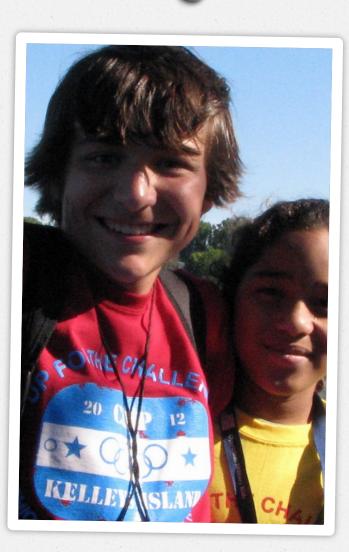


### MISSION

Through a collaborative effort, Operation: Military Kids seeks to provide support to youth impacted by deployment. Through our joint efforts, we work to develop a sense of support from the community and enhance the well-being of military youth & families.







# OUTLINE

#### Military Kids:

Who Are They? Where Are They? What Do They Need?

#### What Can We Do?

How Do Schools Reach Out to Military Youth? What Resources are Available?





# MILITARY KIDS

Who are they? Where are they? What do they need?



# WHAT ILITARY KIDS

<u>Staying Strong: How Schools Build Resilience</u> <u>in Military Families</u>

# MILITARY KIDS

Who are they? Where are they? What do they need?



### Which one is the military child?

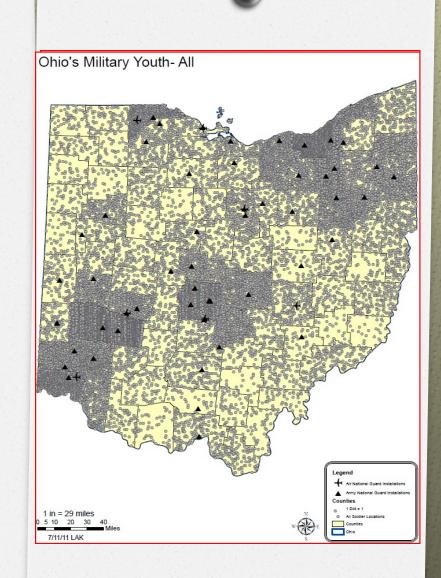




### WHERE ARE MILITARY YOUTH IN OHIO?

In our backyard - Military youth are located in every county of Ohio.

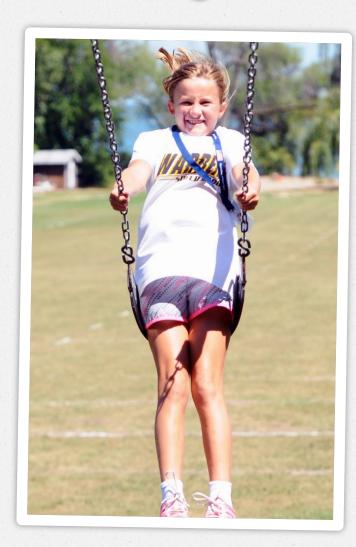
Where there are kids, there will be military kids - Areas of concentration follow the population distribution.



### WHAT DO MILITARY YOUTH NEED?

#### Military Kids Are Kids First!

They have the same needs as all young people.



### WHAT DO MILITARY YOUTH NEED?

Military kids have unique needs. that are related to the nature and challenges of the military lifestyle.



#### **Deployment:**

When a service member is assigned a military duty away from home and cannot be accompanied by family members.



#### **Pre-Deployment:**

Service member receives notification of mobilization. Unit, service member, and family prepare for departure.



#### **Deployment:**

The time when the service member is away from home.



#### **Post-Deployment:**

Begins with the service member's arrival back home & continues as life returns to a "new normal."

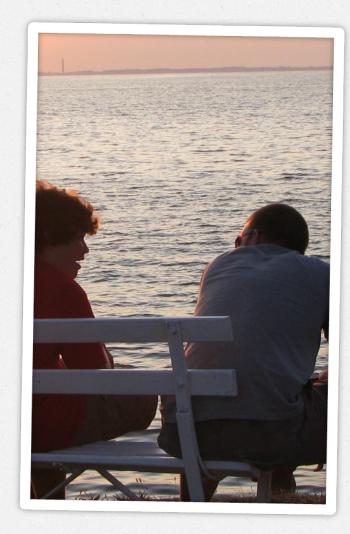


## COPING WITH CHANGE

Deployment is about coping with change.

"I was pretty devastated. I didn't know what to do or where to go."

Military teen



## CHANGE CREATES STRESS

"This camp gave them a few days to forget all of the worries of being a kid whose daddy is deployed."

Parent of two military kid campers



## CHANGE CAN BE POSITIVE!

"Our boys have learned & experienced so much at camp & we love what they come home to share with us. After 3 year-long deployments within 7 years, we know we've got GRIT!"

Army National Guard spouse and parent of 2 military teens





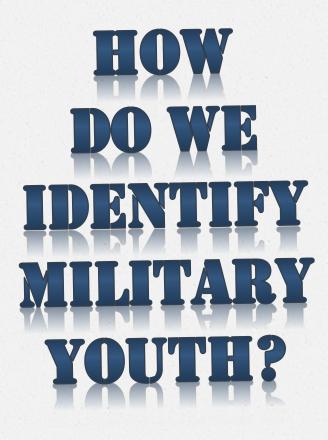


#### WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP YOUTH TO NAVIGATE THESE CHANGES?

1. Get youth involved in social support networks.

- 2. Encourage youth to learn new life skills.
- 3. Teach youth to express stress and emotions in a healthy manner.
- 4. Promote the importance of doing fun activities.







#### OPPORTUNITIES TO PROMOTE AND IDENTIFY

Month of the Military Child (April)

#### go.osu.edu/OMK-MMC

Month of the Military Family (November) Memorial Day Veterans Day



### MILITARY CHILD "TOOL KITS"

Information Packets That Include: Resources Educational Material Contacts Checklists

Customized for Target Audiences: Parents – Students – Schools



### SPEAK OUT FOR MILITARY KIDS YOUTH GROUPS

Military and non-military youth can help to generate community awareness of issues faced by military youth when a parent is in the deployment cycle

Opportunity to gain valuable leadership, research, organization, technology, public speaking, and presentation skills



#### tutor.com

- tutor.com
  - On-line, live, one-toone tutoring service for:
    - homework help
    - ø specialized subjects
    - research
    - career services
    - and more

S.O.A.R. Student Online Achievement Resources

www.soarathome.org

 Program for military families <u>and the</u> <u>school districts that</u> <u>serve them</u>

 Free ACT and SAT prep programs



#### March2Success

www.March2Success.com

 FREE on-line test preparation courses

MARCH

### **Scholarships**



#### GI Bill transferability



Our Military Kids www.ourmilitarykids.org



One-time \$500 education-related activity funding

#### Boys and Girls Clubs of America

www.bgca.org/military



Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)

www.militarychild.org



- Student 2 Student
- Parent 2 Parent
- Students at the Center

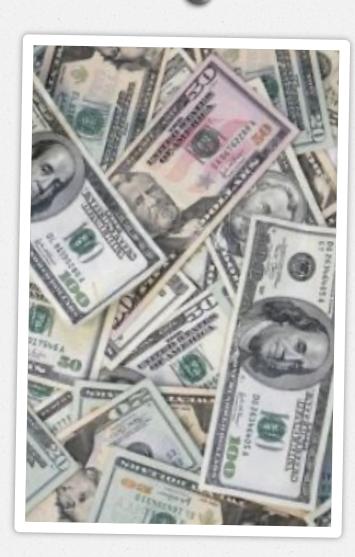
### RESOURCES Military Interstate Compact Agreement

http://www.mic3.net/

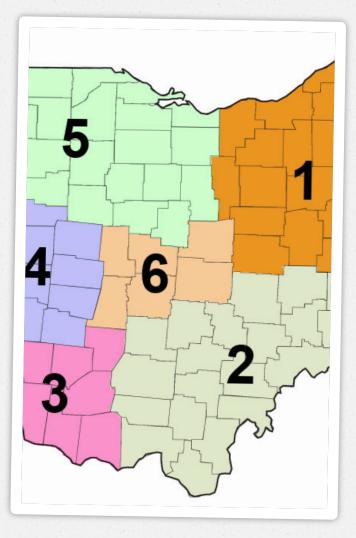


Federal Impact Aid Funding <u>http://www2.ed.gov</u> /about/offices/list/

oese/impactaid



Troop & Family Assistance Centers



Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committees

http://www.homefront.ohio.gov



Contact us for more information if you are interested in these programs for your school.

- Informational Programs
- In-Service/ Professional Development
- Deployment Cycle
  Education
- Classroom
  Presentations



### Connect with us! Find out more!

Website

- ø.osu.edu/OMK
- Facebook
  - OhioOperationMilitary Kids
- YouTubeOhioOMK
- Twitter@OhioOMK



### EDUCATION OUTREACH

For more information please contact

Len Klakulak ONG OMK Education Outreach Specialist Office (419) 868-4543 Cell (989) 289-1893 Ieonard.r.klakulak.ctr@us.army.mil





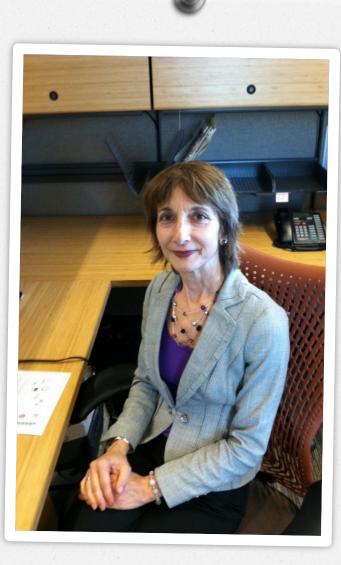
### OPERATION: MILITARY KIDS

For more information please contact

Theresa M. Ferrari, Ph.D. State 4-H Military Liaison <u>ferrari.8@osu.edu</u> 614-247-8164

Katie Feldhues Ohio OMK Program Manager <u>feldhues.2@osu.edu</u> 614-292-3758





9002 too be a milatary kid. I am proved of my soldier!