



Integration of Veterans and Military Family Member into the Local Community Roundtable

This roundtable has shifted to focus on the families of Service members and veterans.

The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) is directly responsible for programs and policies establishing and supporting community quality of life (QOL) programs for service members and their families worldwide. This office also serves as the focal point for coordination of the broad range of QOL issues within the Department of Defense (DoD).

MC&FP welcomes the input of 4H-ers and looks forward to hearing how America's youth can influence this important issue:

- How can young people support Service members, veterans and their families?
- Of the programs or opportunities already in place (OMK, Project YES, Military Extension internship Program, Joining Forces, etc.) what is appealing and how can we get more youth involved in these efforts? What's missing from them?
- How can the USDA and other Federal agencies assist young people in supporting this group?

We have provided facts and resources that you can use to find out about what MC&FP is currently doing. Please understand that these resources are not necessarily directed at youth. Don't feel like you need to limit yourselves to the resources listed; feel free to use other resources that you may know about.

RESOURCES

FACTS:

- Since 2001, the US has been engaged in the longest war by an all volunteer force in its history.
- Less than 1% of the population serves in the military
- The number of deployments of military personnel over that last 10 years is unprecedented
- National Guard and Reserve personnel have experienced unparalleled numbers of activations and deployments
- A high percentage of returning personnel have instances of PTSD/TBI
- Families have experienced multiple deployments, often lasting more than 18 months in entirety
- With the drawdown of troops in Afghanistan over the next 3 years, large numbers of troops will be returning from deployment
- Deployments will continue, but in smaller numbers
- Deployments are not just related to Afghanistan (Djibouti, Philippines, Navy in general, etc.)

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil>

<http://www.operationmilitarykids.org>

<http://militaryfamilies.extension.org/yes-intern-program/>

<http://www.ydae.purdue.edu/military/>

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces>