



**Major General
Deborah A. Ashenhurst
The Adjutant General**

Dear Community Leader:

The Ohio National Guard would like you on our team! Please consider becoming an active "Ohio National Guard Ambassador" by helping me communicate the role your National Guard plays in protecting our national interests and serving the citizens of the State of Ohio.

To build and maintain ready units, the Ohio National Guard needs the ongoing support of our soldiers/airmen, families, employers and other key communities. Since September 11, 2001, the Ohio National Guard has transformed from a strategic reserve to an operational force fully engaged in the national defense and the protection of our homeland. Today, both our national defense and homeland security missions require strong sustainable partnerships with key communities.

Effective teamwork with our key communities is critical to maintaining long term readiness and building a strong operational force effective in today's global environment. This brochure gives a general overview of some of the ways you can actively support your National Guard. Please take some time to review the information provided and get involved. We welcome and appreciate every contribution - no action is too small. For additional information, please contact the Ohio National Guard Office of Community Outreach 614-336-7002.

When called, we respond with ready units!

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Ashenhurst
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Major General
The Adjutant General

How to Become an Ohio National Guard Ambassador



The Adjutant General's Department

Ohio National Guard
Community Outreach Office
2825 West Dublin Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235
(614) 336-7002

Email: ng.oh.oharng.mbx.ong-outreach@mail.mil
Website: <http://ong.ohio.gov>
Events Calendar: http://ong.ohio.gov/community_index.html
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TheOhioNationalGuard>

Community Outreach Mission:

**To ensure ready units by
cultivating and sustaining
mutually-beneficial
relationships in our
communities.**

EDUCATOR OUTREACH

Mission Statement: Help Guardsmen succeed in higher education, support military dependents, and familiarize youth with the benefits of careers in the Ohio National Guard.

What you could do:

- Attend a specialized course to learn about the unique stressors affecting military children.
- Invite an Ohio National Guard speaker to make a speech at your school.
- Include middle or high school youth in unit job shadow programs.

Contact: Lt. Col. Kathy Lowrey at (614) 336-7002

If you work at a college or university:

- Accommodate school disruptions due to deployments
- Offer course credit for military training or coursework
- Consult with the Ohio National Guard Education Services Officer about how to build a military-friendly institution

Contact: Chief Warrant Officer Ken Teter at (614) 336-7023

Share with high school students that the Ohio National Guard offers full in-state college tuition in return for six years of military service.

**Contact: Air National Guard at 1-800-TOGO ANG;
Army National Guard at 1-800 GO GUARD**

FAMILY READINESS

Mission Statement: To promote family readiness, quality of life and empowerment of military families through education, communication, resources, and community involvement.

What you could do:

- Build awareness about Family Readiness events and support services, such as:
 - **For families:** Military youth camps, Marriage enrichment, and Singles retreats
 - **For military members:** Reintegration programs, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other counseling services
- Support your neighbor who has a deployed spouse, child or parent.
- Adopt a Family Readiness Program.
- Work with local schools to support kids who are “suddenly military.”
- Donate time, services, or resources to a Family Readiness Group or Family Assistance Center.
- Connect families to Family Assistance Centers.
- Attend regional community meetings (RISFAC) to connect with area military units.



**Contact: COL Julie Blike
at 1-800-589-9914 or www.ong.ohio.gov/family/**

EMPLOYER OUTREACH

Mission Statement: Sustain the support of employers of Ohio National Guard members through educational and recognition programs.

What you could do:

We encourage you to attend:

- Call to Duty or Homecoming ceremonies.
- Reintegration events 60-days post deployment.

Consider:

- Hiring Veterans by posting job vacancies on the AMVETS www.ohiovetscan.com or State of Ohio Veteran Friendly websites www.ohiomeansjobs.com.
- Developing a company Military Assistance Committee or a Military Liaison position.
- Referring Guard employees to family readiness as needed to promote resiliency.

Contact: Capt. Nicole Ashcroft at (614) 336-7077



Participate in key Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR) initiatives, such as:

- Signing a “Statement of Support”
- Utilizing Ombudsmen conflict resolution services
- Training Human resource staff about the USERRA law
- Consider implementing guidance in their “*Employer Resource Guide*”



**Contact: Mr. Joe Varrasso at
(614) 336-7444 or www.esgr.mil**

DIVERSITY OUTREACH

Mission Statement: To build a more diverse workplace.

What you could do:

- Nominate women or minority leaders to the annual orientation flight at Rickenbacker.
- Invite Ohio National Guard speakers to present at schools or community groups.
- Explore innovative opportunities to partner.

Contact: Lt. Col. Kathy Lowrey at (614) 336-7002