



# BUCKEYE FAMILIES

EDUCATE, COMMUNICATE AND MARKET FAMILY READINESS  
2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER ISSUE: MAY 2012

Ready Families... Anytime, Anywhere

## A NOTE FROM FAMILY READINESS & WARRIOR SUPPORT

The FR&WS office has had plenty of change this Spring with personnel changes in all areas of the state. Most of our changes have been with contracted staff as we have switched from local contracts to federal contracts. Many of the contracted personnel you are familiar with remain in the organization but are now in different roles and locations. A few individuals have retired or moved on, but the FR&WS office will continue to provide the same level of support while our staff transition and fill these new roles.

The 2012 Professional Development Workshop is now complete and we are in the process of documenting survey comments and After Action Reviews. If you have input that did not make it on the event survey, please feel free to send those comments directly to me for review. The FR&WS Office always strives for improvement in all the activities that we conduct.

With Summer around the corner, I encourage you to take advantage of all the programs that we offer: Youth camps, Troop and Family Camps, HERO Camps and Marriage Enrichment Programs to name a few. These events get bigger and better every year and we continue to seek opportunities to expand to all regions of the state. These events are either free or offer huge cost savings as compared to similar civilian activities. Don't let these opportunities pass you by.

1LT Doug Franz  
State Family Programs Director  
[Douglas.franz@us.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.franz@us.army.mil)  
614-336-4161

Stay up to date on programs and events by following us at [http://ong.ohio.gov.frg/FRG\\_index.html](http://ong.ohio.gov.frg/FRG_index.html) or search for Ohio National Guard Strong Families on Facebook!



## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARENESS PROGRAM

[www.jointservicesupport.org/FMAP](http://www.jointservicesupport.org/FMAP)

**You may qualify for a loan modification under the Making Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) if:**

- your home is your primary residence;
- you owe less than \$729,750 on your first mortgage;
- you got your mortgage before January 1, 2009;
- your payment on your first mortgage (including principal, interest, taxes, insurance and homeowner's association dues, if applicable) is more than 31 percent of your current gross income; and you can't afford your mortgage payment because of a financial hardship, like a job loss or medical bills

**If you meet these qualifications, contact your servicer.**

**You will need to provide documentation that may include:**

- information about the monthly gross (before tax) income of your household, including recent pay stubs
- your most recent income tax return.
- information about your savings and other assets
- your monthly mortgage statement.
- information about any second mortgage or home equity line of credit on your home
- account balances and minimum monthly payments due on your credit cards
- account balances and monthly payments on your other debts, like student loans or car loans
- a completed Hardship Affidavit describing the circumstances responsible for the decrease in your income or the increase in your expenses

**For more information, see**

[www.makinghomeaffordable.gov](http://www.makinghomeaffordable.gov)

If you're interested in refinancing, to take advantage of lower mortgage rates, you may want to ask if you qualify for the Home Affordable Refinance Program.

## RESOURCE CONTACT LIST

Troop & Family Assistance Center – 800-589-9914

Region 1: Prompt 1

Region 2: Prompt 2

Region 3: Prompt 3

Region 4: Prompt 4

Region 5: Prompt 5

Region 6: Prompt 6



24 hour Joint Operations Center – 888-637-9053

ONG Transition Assistance Advisors – 614-336-7349  
or 614-336-4192

TRICARE Benefits Assistance – 614-336-6000 x1778

Employment Support Services – 614-336-7152

Military Family Life Consultant – 614-336-7479

OhioCares – 800-761-0868

Personal Financial Consultant – 614-336-4212

Military OneSource Consultant – 614-336-7319

Director of Psychological Health – 614-336-7246

Drug & Alcohol Intervention – 614-336-6444

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator – 877-751-5628

American Red Cross – 800-696-3873

Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR) –  
614-336-7444

Veterans Benefits Administration – 800-827-1000

## EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT RESOURCES

### Career Centers:

Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services-888-296-7541

AMVETS Career Center-614-431-6990

### Career Exploration:

<http://ohiolmi.com/jobs/careers.htm>

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

<http://www.mynextmove.org/vets/>

### Job Searching:

#### Federal Job Search:

[www.usajobs.opm.gov/](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/)

[www.fedshirevets.gov/](http://www.fedshirevets.gov/)

<http://www.ong.ohio.gov/jobs/Jobs.asp>

### Military Friendly

<http://my.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/vetcenter/home.aspx>

<http://www.ohiovetscan.com>

<http://www.h2h.jobs/>

### Resume Writing:

<http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/tap/main.htm>

<http://www.turbotap.org/register.tpp>

### Interviewing Tips and Techniques

<http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/tap/main.htm>

<http://www.turbotap.org/register.tpp>

### MOS Skills Translation:

<https://www.online.onetcenter.org>

<http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/vmet>

### Networking

<http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/tap/main.htm>

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER:

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
10-13: Resilience Training Assistant (RTA) – Columbus	4: “Scream Free Parenting” Seminar – Mansfield	5-6: Applied Suicide Intervention and Prevention Skills (ASIST) – Columbus
14-15: PREP – Columbus	6-10: OMK Camp Kelleys Island	14-16: Troop & Family Camp
14: Employer Outreach Program Awards Ceremony – Camp Ravenna/Mansfield	25-26: Laugh Your Way – Cincinnati/Dayton	15: Akron Football Military Family Day – Akron
21-22: Applied Suicide Intervention and Prevention Skills (ASIST) – Crown Plaza Dublin	24-26: Troop & Family Camp – Camp Patmos/Kelleys Island	15: Employer Outreach Program Awards Ceremony – Rickenbacker
28-29: 8 Habits – Cincinnati	18: Advanced Regional Foundation Course – Bowling Green	23: “Scream Free Parenting” Seminar - Toledo
31: Hero Camp/Sports Sampler/Strong Family Workshop – OSU Campus	25: Regional Foundation Course – Cincinnati	24-25: Applied Suicide Intervention and Prevention Skills (ASIST) – Canton
		TBD: Strong Bonds Singles Event - Columbus

**REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE  
COMMITTEE (RISFAC) MEETINGS  
3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER SCHEDULE**

The Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee (RISFAC) is a place for community resources and military units to join forces as well as providing a forum for military leadership and family readiness staff and volunteers to interact and discuss their unit's initiatives and concerns with supportive community participants.

**Region 1:**

Date: **26 July 2012**

Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Location: Veterans Service Commission of Summit County

Address: 1060 E. Waterloo Rd. Akron, OH 44306

Phone: 330-643-7636

**Region 2:**

Date: **18 July 2012**

Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Location: Ross County Service Center; Conference Room A

Address: 475 Western Avenue, Chillicothe OH 45601

Phone: 740-702-3120 (Roberta Tackett)

**Region 3:**

Date: **24 July 2012**

Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Location: Woodlawn Community Center

Address: 10050 Woodlawn Blvd, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

Phone: 614-336-6714

**Region 4:**

Date: **24 Jul 2012**

Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Location: Dayton Area American Red Cross

Address: 370 W. First Street Dayton, Ohio 45402

Phone: 937-222-6711

**Region 5:**

Date: **17 Jul 2012**

Location: Red Cross Building

Address: 125 Fair Street Findlay, Ohio 45840

Phone: (419) 524-0311

**Region 6:**

Date: **11 July 2012**

Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Location: OSU 4-H Youth Development Building

Address: 2201 Fred Taylor Rd. Columbus, OH 43210

**AMVETS AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!**

**AMVETS Award for exceptional volunteers in the National Guard Family Program, honoring those individuals who have given extraordinary service to the families of our National Guard Troops.**

The recipient of this Award will receive an attractive plaque and a check in the amount of \$1,000 that will be made payable to the recipients nominating group, to enhance delivery of family programs.

The nomination of volunteers, whose contributions are believed to merit this recognition, will be made by units on an annual basis. There is no limit on the number of nominations that may be submitted, but units are under no obligation to submit nominations. This recognition is intended to be prestigious and the contributions of nominations should be exemplary. The nominations must be submitted with a cover letter signed by the State Family Program Director or the Airmen & Family Program endorsing the nomination. **The due date for submission is 30 June each year. Nominations must be mailed to: AMVETS – National Programs Dept., 4647 Forbes Blvd., Lanham, MD 20706**

There will be one Award made each year during the National Guard National Volunteer Workshop.

Nominees for this award may be from the Air or Army Guard. Complete the Official Nomination form with name and organization/unit where service occurs. Submit the form with a narrative describing the rationale for recommending the volunteer. The narrative should be double spaced and not exceed 300 words. Letters of recommendation may be submitted with the narrative.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Nomination should cover a minimum of one year of service within the group making the nomination.
- Volunteer must have completed volunteer training in accordance with their state guidelines.
- Volunteer must demonstrate a high degree of initiative and originality.
- Volunteer must exhibit leadership in performing assigned duties that resulted in improved or new programs and/or services.
- Volunteer provided outstanding leadership in planning, organizing, or directing a major program.
- Volunteers must have established a demonstrable pattern of excellence.
- Long periods of service do not, of themselves, constitute sufficient basis for conferring this award.

Applications can be downloaded at:

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

## GI BENEFIT WATCHDOG BILL INTRODUCED

U.S. Senator Patty Murray, Chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, recently joined with Senators Daniel Akaka (D-HI), Mark Begich (D-AK) to introduce in the U.S. Senate the GI Bill Consumer Awareness Act of 2012. The bill will give Service Members and veterans using the GI Bill and other VA education benefits access to information that would help them make informed decisions about the schools they attend so they get the most out of the benefit.

For highlights of the bill and to understand this further, please go to: <http://bit.ly/HVol82>

## BEWARE OF SCAM LETTER!

A letter is making the circuit purporting to be from the Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) asking military member's fiancées to register in the system entitling them to benefits in the event of the member's death. All for only a \$350 fee. **This is not a genuine DFAS letter – it is a scam.** The letter is a typical scam phishers use to try and obtain your personal information and, in this case, money. DFAS will never send unsolicited e-mail messages with attachments.

For more information on scams or financial issues, please visit: <http://www.military.com>

## NEW JOB PUSH TO BENEFIT MILITARY SPOUSES

First Lady Michelle Obama unveiled a new hiring effort that will deliver thousands of portable, flexible job opportunities to military spouses. Eleven companies have pledged more than 15,000 jobs for military spouses and veterans. A major advantage for these spouses is that these jobs can be accomplished from home. Other jobs will be in contact centers located near military installations, and offer family-friendly scheduling, growth opportunities and the ability to transfer seamlessly from one center to another. Companies' key commitments include: Alpine Access, Dial America, Arise Virtual Solutions Inc., Etech Global Services, Hilton Hotels, Agility Marketing, QCSS Inc., among several others.



## TRICARE INTRODUCES NEW BENEFITS

TRICARE introduced several new programs in 2009. The TRICARE Assistance Program (TRIAP) provides short-term professional counseling assistance. For information about TRIAP and other behavioral health resources, visit the TRICARE Mental Health Resources Center. TRICARE's new Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) benefits for eligible family members who are diagnosed with extraordinary physical or psychological conditions.

For more information on TRICARE's new dental program and pharmacy benefits, visit the TRICARE Active Duty Dental Program website at: <http://www.addp-ucci.com>

## NATION MUST "STEP UP FOREVER" FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

As First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden mark the first anniversary of their "Joining Forces" campaign recently, the two say they will continue to solidify its successes so a structured effort to help military families is a permanent part of American culture. Additionally, Obama and Biden, wife of vice president Joe Biden, said they've been amazed by the outpouring of support by American civilians. More than 100 companies have committed to participate in the administration's goal of the private sector hiring of 100,000 spouses and veterans. They also expressed how impressed they are with the resiliency of military families. The first lady noted that 1 percent of Americans serve in the all-volunteer force to protect everyone else, and President Obama emphasizes how the need to continue this military family support is needed.

To read more about this subject, please go to: <http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=67877>

## NEW WOUNDED WARRIORS APP

A new smartphone app has been released for iPhone and Android devices that provides wounded warriors with a comprehensive mobile resource guide. The free app gives wounded and ill Service Members and their families' access to information they may need during recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration, and answers many of the questions that Service Members may have. The app also lists toll free numbers for TRICARE regional contractors, behavioral healthcare providers and other TRICARE programs (dental, pharmacy, etc.). The app can be downloaded for free on the Android Market and iTunes Store.



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**May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Military & Family Support Program**

**What is Origins Game Fair?**

The Origins Game Fair, owned and sponsored by GAMA, is an annual event that is held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. This is an exciting opportunity for you to discover the magic of an entire convention center full of gaming and game-related activities. Every year, thousands of gamers and guests attend to play, buy, and learn more about the vast variety of games that are available.

Not a gamer? Not a problem! Not all the games at the Origins Game Fair are solely for recreational purposes. At Origins, we also have many educational (that are still fun!) games for teachers to help reinforce their lessons to help kids visualize their learning!

The Origins Game Fair continues growing and innovating each year. Our events include games of all genres, Art Show, Art College, Family programs, Kids Room, Educator's Hall, game design seminars, author seminars, game auction, open gaming, War College and the Exhibitor Hall. Each year we've aimed to add to our attendee's enjoyment and gaming experience.

Visit [www.gama.org](http://www.gama.org) for upcoming show dates, exhibition and registration information.

**Free Day Pass Program**

GAMA is proud to announce our free pass program to you. We appreciate our troops serving for our country, so in return we will allow any deployed military personnel family members to get a free day pass.

Will we have a list of all deployed units in Ohio and all you have to do is show your dependent ID card and get your passes.

**Military Discounts at Origins Game Fair**

Every year Origins Game Fair offers many discounts to our attendees. This year for any military personnel you will get a reduce cost off regular badges starting at \$55 to play games.

All you have to do is show us your military ID upon purchase and we will give you \$20 off badges. You can also purchase badges prior to the fair online at [www.originsgamefair.com](http://www.originsgamefair.com)

Origins Game Fair opens its doors at 7 a.m. and closes at 11 p.m.

**Games to Troops Program**

This is our third year GAMA and our member's work with the National Guard. We come together to bring games to our deployed service men and woman and their families. The National Guard will also be on site accepting any donated games anyone wants to contribute.

**War College**

The Origins War College offers you a great collection of war studies, war gaming, and international affairs seminars all in one program.

You will get a first- hand experience to a seminar that enables you to learn and participate by asking questions to our subject matter experts.

The Origins War College is free to attend if you wear your military uniform and show your military ID.

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**Brought to you by:**

