

2016 WESTERN NEW YORK

MILITARY AND VETERAN FAMILY

RESOURCE GUIDE



SUPPORT
EDUCATE
CONNECT
EMPOWER



PARENT NETWORK OF WNY

 (716) 332-4170  info@parentnetworkwny.org  parentnetworkwny.org

 [@MilitaryandVeteranFamilyProgram](https://www.facebook.com/MilitaryandVeteranFamilyProgram)

 [@MilandVetFam](https://twitter.com/MilandVetFam)

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MILITARY AND VETERAN FAMILY RESOURCE GUIDE 2016

This resource guide is for military and veteran families with children with special needs, as well as service providers. The resource guide contains a wide variety of services offering a range of supports. It can point you in the right direction, but it can't answer all your questions. For the services or supports that interest you, please call or email the contact listed. Check websites to learn how a specific service could support the needs of a family or individual. We encourage you to speak with the contact person for information regarding services provided.

Every effort has been made to make sure that the information in this directory is current and accurate. Services offered change frequently and users should always verify what is offered.

If you would like to add, update or remove information please use the form in the back of the resource guide and mail to:

Parent Network of WNY
1000 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

For the electronic version of this change form and the electronic version of this resource guide, please go to:

www.parentnetworkwny.org

INTRODUCTION

Currently, 21 active military units serve at approximately 8 different locations throughout Western New York. There is no base in WNY, in which the military reside. Additionally, 1 in 10 military children have special educational or health care needs. The last known statistics for veterans residing in the 8 counties of WNY is 172,000.

Military and veteran families who have children with special needs have dynamic issues. Their families are constantly adapting to change, deployments, orders, and settling into civilian life. Although the families may show stench and resilience, managing family life can be more depending.

VISION

Enable families to learn about special education rules, roles and responsibilities, services available outside of school and support and assistance for family members by Parent Network of WNY and the community.

MISSION

Supporting military and veteran families with children with special needs and professionals to inform, empowers, and self-advocate while accessing services.

BRANCHES

<p>Air Force</p> <p>The U.S. Air Force protects American interests at home and abroad with a focus on air power.</p>	<p>Air Force Reserve</p> <p>The Air Force Reserve gives service members the opportunity to train and serve on a part-time basis, as needed.</p>	<p>Air National Guard</p> <p>The Air National Guard trains part time to assist in domestic disasters and international conflicts.</p>
<p>Army</p> <p>As the oldest branch of the U.S. Military, the Army protects the security of the United States and its resources.</p>	<p>Army Reserve</p> <p>The Army Reserve trains part time near home until needed and members deploy alongside the Army.</p>	<p>Army National Guard</p> <p>Army National Guard members deploy with the Army on a part-time basis, with a special focus on homeland security and relief programs.</p>
<p>Coast Guard</p> <p>The Coast Guard protects America's waterways and deploys with the Navy during wartime.</p>	<p>Coast Guard Reserve</p> <p>The Coast Guard Reserve offers a part-time serve opportunity for service members to train near home.</p>	
<p>Marine Corps</p> <p>The Marine Corps is often first on the ground in combat situations.</p>	<p>Marine Corps Reserve</p> <p>Marine Corps reservists train domestically until needed, then deploy with the rest of the Corps.</p>	
<p>Navy</p> <p>The Navy defends the right to travel and trade freely on the world's oceans and protects national interests overseas.</p>	<p>Navy Reserve</p> <p>The Navy Reserve trains service members close to home until they are needed in action.</p>	

Taken from (<http://todaysmilitary.com/joining/types-of-military-service>)

MILITARY HOLIDAYS

January

- 3rd Monday in January: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

February

- February 19th: Coast Guard Reserves Birthday
- February 20th: President's Day

March

- March 3rd: Navy Reserves Birthday
- March 15th: American Legion's Birthday
- March 19th (2012): National Day of Honor
- March 30th: Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day

April

- Entire month of April: Month of the Military Child
- April 5th: Gold Star Wives Day
- April 14th: Air Force Reserve Birthday
- April 23rd: Army Reserves Birthday

May

- Entire month of May: National Military Appreciation Month
- First full week in May: Public Service Recognition Week
- May 1st: Silver Star Service Banner Day (honoring America's wounded, injured and ill service members)
- May 1st: Loyalty Day (recognizing the American spirit of loyalty)
- May 8th: V-E Day
- 2nd Saturday through 3rd Sunday in May: Armed Forces Week
- 2nd Friday in May: Military Spouse Day
- 3rd Saturday in May: Armed Forces Day
- May 22nd: Maritime Day:
- Last Monday in May: Memorial Day

June

- June 6th: D-Day Invasion Anniversary
- June 14th: U.S. Flag Day
- The week that includes June 14th: National Flag Week
- June 14th: US Army Birthday
- June 23rd: United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday
- June 27th: PTSD Awareness Day

- June 28th: Operation Red Wings Observance

July

- July 4th: Independence Day (4th of July)
- July 21st: Department of Veterans Administration Created
- July 29th: Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Corps

August

- August 4th: US Coast Guard (USCG) Birthday
- August 14th: V-J Day
- August 14th: National Spirit of '45 Day
- August 16th: National Airborne Day
- August 29th: Marine Corps Reserve Birthday

September

- September 11th: Patriot Day (9/11 Remembrance Day)
- September 17th: Constitution Day (or Citizenship Day)
- September 18th: US Air Force (USAF) Birthday
- 3rd Friday in September: National POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Last Sunday in September: Gold Star Mother's Day

October

- October 13th: US Navy (USN) Birthday
- October 26th: Day of the Deployed

November

- Entire month of November: National Military Family Month
- November 10th: U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Birthday
- November 11th: Veteran's Day
- November 11th: Veteran Owned Business' Anniversary (launched 11/1/2008)

December

- December 1st: Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday
- December 7th: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (President Roosevelt's Day of Infamy Speech)
- December 13th: US National Guard Birthday

MIL/VET CHILDREN SPECIAL NEEDS LAWS AND RIGHTS

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Helps children with disabilities to access school services by providing accommodations and modifications. This does not

provide for the individualized education program.

American with Disabilities Act (ADA) (1990)

Civil rights protections are provided to individuals with disabilities. An individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity, a person who has a history or record of such impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment.

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Students (2009)

Created to provide a smooth transition for military children as their families relocate from one installation to another. The Compact was created with the hope that students will not lose academic time in transition, obtain an appropriate placement, and be able to graduate on time. Currently all 50 states and District of Columbia participate in the Compact.

Under the compact as taken from Branchta website:

- If a child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and receives special education services, or a 504 Plan that lists accommodations, the new school must place the child in a comparable program. It does not require the same services, but one that can meet the child's needs. The new school must address all the current needs of the child until, and unless, the school determines through assessments, that the student no longer needs the services or the current level of services.
- While IEP's are transferable under the Compact, the compact is silent regarding the ability to transfer Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) from state to state. Therefore, the infant or toddler will need to meet the criteria established by that state to determine if the child is eligible to receive services. If eligible, there are no assurances that the child will receive the same services.
- Schools are required to accept hand carried, photo copied or unofficial school records. Waiting for the original official

transcripts can be time consuming and not beneficial to the student since receiving official documentation from another state or overseas can take weeks.

- Schools should allow dependents to be absent without penalties to participate in activities related to the parent's deployment.
- Students should be allowed to continue in the same grade they were in prior to the relocation; even if the new school system has different entrance time lines for class enrollment, (this is especially important for kindergarteners).
- Although the Compact has been around since 2006, there may be school staff who has not heard about the Compact – especially in areas where there are not many active duty families.
- Students receive accreditation for each class they complete. The accreditation relates to the amount of credits a student has received per class. These credits may not transfer (credit for credit) when relocating from one school to another. Per the Compact, schools should be working to allow students to transfer to the same grade without an issue. Schools/districts should have a comparison chart that will show them how the incoming student's credits compare to the same or similar classes the new school offers.

If the student is in his or her senior year when the move occurs, he or she should be granted credit, if at all possible, so that the student can graduate with his or her current class. High school class credits within US public schools should transfer per the Interstate Compact to the new school. College courses are not covered under the Compact so they may not transfer credit for credit.

Anti-bullying laws (2012)

Bullying is “unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involved a real or perceived power imbalance,” as stated in the federal government's anti-bullying website. There are 11 key components of the law including specification of prohibited conduct, development and implementation of local

policies and training and prevention education.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (2004)

Children with qualifying disabilities have the right for access to a free and appropriate public education. Military parents changing public schools should receive comparable services at the child's new school.

Social Security Income (SSI)

Military families can apply for SSI while serving overseas and can receive SSI overseas.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS)

In order to learn what programs are available to veteran and military families you must go through DEERS. Service members are automatically enrolled. Family members need to be registered.

Family Readiness Groups (FRG)

Family Members, Volunteers, Soldiers and Civilian employees form these organizations. They provide a system of communication for family members, chains of command and other community resources. They help to easily find the information and services families need for the challenges of everyday military life. The groups ensure that regardless of branch of Service, active or Reserve status, or geographic location, you can easily tap into a trusted network of support that maximizes both military and civilian resources.

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

A mandated enrollment program for active Military families based on a public law and Department of Defense. EFMP works with other military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated medical, housing, educational, community support, and personnel services to families with special needs.

Identification Cards

Identification (ID) cards are a requirement by the Department of Defense for each member of the family. ID cards are necessary for access to benefits and entitlements during peacetime and mobilization. Those eligible are spouse, widow(er), unmarried children who are 10 to 21 years of age, children under 10 who do not live the service member, children of any age who have severe mental or material disabilities, unmarried children up to 23 who attend school full-time, and parents or in-laws who are dependent on the service member.

New York National Guard Child and Youth Program

Provides military children and youth with valuable opportunities for networking and skill development. Works to increase awareness of challenges facing military children and youth as well as resources available for these individuals

FAMILY RESOURCES - MEDICAL

Camp Lejeune: Past Water Contamination

May be eligible for VA health benefits if you served on active duty, veterans or resided family members at Camp Lejeune for 30 days or more between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987. Veterans who are determined to be eligible will be able to receive VA health care. In addition, care for qualifying health conditions is provided at no cost to the Veteran including co-payments. Eligible family members receive reimbursement for out-of-pocket medical expenses incurred from the treatment of qualifying health conditions after all other health insurance is applied.

CHAMPVA

The Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) is a health benefits program in which the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) shares the cost of certain health care services and supplies with eligible beneficiaries. To be eligible for CHAMPVA, the beneficiary cannot be eligible for TRICARE. CHAMPVA provides coverage to the spouse or widow(er)

and children of a Veteran who:

- is rated permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability, or
- was rated permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected condition at the time of death, or
- died of a service-connected disability, or
- died on active duty and the dependents are not otherwise eligible for Department of Defense TRICARE benefits.

Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV)

Health care benefits for women Vietnam Veterans' birth children who the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) has determined to have a covered birth defect. This is not a comprehensive health care plan and only covers those services necessary for the treatment of a covered birth defect and associated medical conditions. The plan does not cover care that is unrelated to a covered birth defect. A child whose biological mother is a Vietnam Veteran, and was conceived after the date on which the Veteran entered the Republic of Vietnam, during the period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending May 7, 1975, and who have one of the covered birth defects, as determined by the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), are eligible for the program.

Spina Bifida Health Care Program

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides monetary allowances, vocational training and rehabilitation and VA-financed health care benefits to certain Korea and Vietnam Veterans' birth children who have been diagnosed with spina bifida (SB). A birth child of a Vietnam Veteran who has been diagnosed with spina bifida may already be receiving monetary allowances, vocational training or rehabilitation due to your condition.

TRICARE

A federal program that provides health insurance to active duty military, military retirees, and their families. A comprehensive coverage that includes dental, prescription, mental health, and optical. There are several plans to choose from.

Tricare's Extended Care Health Option (ECHO)

Tricare echo is a supplement to Tricare and provides funds for additional therapy and services for military children with a disability.

Veteran Administrative Health Care

VA Health Care is not considered a health insurance plan. Veterans generally must be enrolled to receive VA health care. Enrollment assures Veterans that comprehensive health care services are available when they are needed. VA's enrollment system designates Veterans by priority groups.

2014 VA Benefits for Children of Vietnam or Korean Veterans Born with Spina Bifida

Children who have spina bifida or certain other birth defects and are biological children of Veterans with qualifying service in the Republic of South Vietnam or Republic of Korea may be eligible for various VA benefits, to include monthly monetary compensation, health care and vocational training depending on the child's degree of disability. The monetary compensation may be paid at one of three disability levels, based on the severity of the disability.

FAMILY RESOURCES - CHILD CARE/RESPIRE

Boys and Girls Club

As a member of a military family, your child can receive a no-cost membership to the Boys and Girls Club in your community.

(800) 854-CLUB

BGCA.org/military

Child Care Aware

Provides personnel assistance in locating, selecting, and offsetting the cost of civilian child care when on-base child care is not available. Provides subsidies for eligible military dependents enrolled in quality commercial child care programs. Subsidy amounts based on total family income for those eligible and

supplies monthly payments directly to the prospective child care provider.

1515 N. Courthouse Road, 3rd Floor

Arlington, A 22201 usa.childcareaware.org/military-programs/
(703) 341-4100

Kids Korner Waiting Room

Veterans who have medical appointments at VA Western New York Healthcare System and need assistance with childcare, can use the Kids Korner Waiting Room, at the Buffalo VA Medical Center. This free service is available weekdays from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Make an appointment for children six weeks to 12 years of age.

Buffalo VA Medical Center

3495 Bailey Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14215

(716) 862-8802

Sittercity Military Program

DoD funded program to service members. Sittercity helps to find babysitters, nannies, senior care, pet care, housekeepers, tutors, PCS help and more.

Sittercity Incorporated

sittercity.com/military

20 W. Kinzie St. Suite 1500

Chicago, IL 60654

(866) 205-5625

Home Community Care Program

The Air Force HCC program provides free childcare for United States Air Force Reserve and National Guard members assigned to specific installations during drill weekends. For more information about the program contact your Services Director (AFR) or the Services Technician (ANG).

YMCA - Respite Child Care

Respite child care is available for infants (or youngest age permitted at the participating YMCA) up to 12 years of age (or oldest age permitted at the participating YMCA).

FAMILY RESOURCES - DEPENDENT EDUCATION BENEFITS

Survivors' & Dependents' Educational Assistance Eligibility

VA provides educational assistance to qualifying dependents as follows:

- The spouse or child of a Service member or Veteran who either died of a service-connected disability, or who has permanent and total service-connected disability, or who died while such a disability existed.
- The spouse or child of a Service member listed for more than 90 days as currently Missing in Action (MIA), captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, or detained or interned by a foreign government or power.
- The spouse or child of a Service member who is hospitalized or receives outpatient care or treatment for a disability that is determined to be totally and permanently disabling, incurred or aggravated due to active duty, and for which the service member is likely to be discharged from military service.
- Period of Eligibility: The period of eligibility for Veterans' spouses expires 10 years from either the date they become eligible or the date of the Veteran's death. Children generally must be between the ages of 18 and 26 to receive educational benefits. VA may grant extensions to both spouses and children.

2014 VA Benefits for Children of Vietnam or Korean Veterans Born with Spina Bifida

The period of eligibility for spouses of Service members who died on active duty expires 20 years from the date of death. Spouses of Service members who died on active duty whose 10-year eligibility period expired before Dec. 10, 2004, now have 20 years from the date of death to use educational benefits.

Public Law 110-389 provides a 20-year period of eligibility for spouses of Veterans with a permanent and total service-connected disability rating effective within 3 years of release from active duty. Benefits include payments, training/education, and other special benefits.

Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship

Children of those who died in the line of duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, are potentially eligible to use Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. VA may provide counseling to help participants pursue an educational or vocational objective.

Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) Death Benefit

VA will pay a special MGIB death benefit to a designated survivor in the event of the service-connected death of a Service member while on active duty or within one year after discharge or release. The deceased must either have been entitled to educational assistance under the MGIB program or a participant in the program who would have been so entitled but for the high school diploma or length-of-service requirement. The amount paid will be equal to the participant's actual military pay reduction, less any education benefits paid.

Children of Vietnam or Korean Veterans Born with Spina Bifida

A biological child of male and female Veterans who served in Vietnam at any time during the period beginning Jan. 9, 1962, and ending May 7, 1975, or who served in or near the Korean demilitarized zone during the period beginning Sept. 1, 1967, and ending Aug. 31, 1971, born with spina bifida may be eligible for a monthly monetary allowance and vocational training if reasonably feasible.

Children of Women Vietnam Veterans Born with Certain Birth Defects

Biological children of women Veterans who served in Vietnam at any time during certain periods may be eligible for certain benefits because of birth defects associated with the mother's service in Vietnam that resulted in a permanent physical or mental disability. Vocational training may be available.

Tutor.com

Free tutoring and homework help provided at no cost to service members and their eligible dependents.

Tutor.com

Who is eligible for respite child care?

Title 10 personnel are eligible for a Y membership, including:

- *Family members of deployed National Guard and Reservists*
- *Active Duty Independent Duty personnel*
- *Relocated spouse/dependent children of deployed Active Duty personnel*
- *Families of deployed Active Duty personnel residing 30 miles from a military installation*

Contact Military OneSource at www.militaryonesource.com or 800-342-9647 to confirm your eligibility and receive an eligibility form.

FAMILY RESOURCES - ACTIVITIES

Camp Corral

Free to qualifying children of military families with priority given to those of fallen, disabled or injured military personnel. Enrollment is limited.

YMCA Camp Gorham
265 Darts Lake Road
Eagle Bay, NY 13331
(888) 518-5671

campgorham.org

Grant a Wish – WNY Heroes Inc.

Veterans and family members of veterans who reside in one of the 8 counties of WNY. Must have at least 180 days of active duty, not including training. Must have been honorably discharged. Provides a grant of up to \$250 to veterans and their families to help meet a basic need. Which may include rent, mortgage, utilities, food, holiday meals, medicals bills, etc.

1125 Main Street, Suite 27
Buffalo, NY 14209
(888) 400-3892

wnyheroes.org

YMCA

Free Memberships: We understand that military families are under enormous strain. As a member of the Y, you and your family can

spend quality time together and enjoy fun activities in a warm, supportive environment. It's also a place to meet other military families who can relate to your unique situation.

Who is eligible for membership?

Title 10 personnel are eligible for a Y membership, including:

- *Family members of deployed National Guard and Reservists*
- *Active Duty Independent Duty personnel and their families*
- *Relocated spouse/dependent children of deployed Active Duty personnel*

Contact Military OneSource at www.militaryonesource.com or 800-342-9647 to confirm your eligibility and receive an eligibility form.

Operation C.O.M.

A free interactive program to support children of the military and to establish positive coping skills to deal with the stress of deployment, to express feelings & strengthen self-confidence.

Mary McParlane (716) 886-1242 ext. 313

www.eriamha.org

999 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209

Meeting Times: Please contact for date and time

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTERS - WESTERN NEW YORK

107th AW Wing Family Program

The Airmen & Family Readiness Program is central to strong families by providing programs and resources that encourage positive experiences in challenging times.

Jeanne W. Goetze Jeanne.w.goetze.civ@mail.mil
9910 Blewett Avenue Bldg 901
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
(716) 236-3411

914th AW Airman and Family Readiness

Airman & Family Readiness provides military members, their families, and leadership with programs that promote self-sufficiency and enhance mission readiness, retention, and adaptation to the Air Force way of life. Programs focus on health and well-being, personnel preparedness, sense of community, family adaptation, and spiritual well-being.

Joel C. Smith
9910 Blewett Avenue, Bldg 901
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
(716) 236-2097

Amherst Army Reserve Center

Provides support to both the family and military member. Provides chaplains and support in legal military issues.

Diane Johnson
100 North Forest Road
Amherst, NY 14221
(716) 633-8461

Belmont

Supportive services for Veteran Families.

Walter Carrick, Jr. wcarrick@belmonthousingwny.org
403 Main Street, Suite 320
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 884-7791

Bridging Hearts Grant

Combat veterans and family members of combat veterans who reside in one of the 8 counties of WNY. Must have at least 180 days of active duty, not including training. Must have been honorably discharged. Provides grant of up to \$500 to combat veterans and their families to help meet a basic need.

1125 Main Street, Suite 27
Buffalo, NY 14209
(888) 400-3892

wnyheroes.org

Buffalo Vet Center

Readjustment counseling for eligible veterans and family. Counseling for post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse and sexual trauma and employment. Job referral, benefits referral and community education also available.

Matthew Baker
(716) 862-7350
2372 Sweet Home Road, Suite 1
Buffalo, NY 14228

matthew.baker@va.gov

Cattaraugus County Veterans Service Agency

County veterans' benefits for eligible veterans, their dependent, spouse or widow and/or dependent children. Can discuss VA benefits laws or VA Healthcare System.

One Leo Moss Drive,
Olean NY 14760
(716) 701-3298

Chautauqua County Veterans Service Agency

Provides advocacy for Chautauqua County Veterans, Armed Forces, their dependents and survivors through benefits counseling and programs, claims and outreach services.

Troy Smith
610 West Third Street
Jamestown, NY
14701
(716) 661-8255

co.chautauqua.ny.us

Erie County Committee of the American Legion

Provide support for families who have a member deployed. Work with children and youth groups. Coordinate forty legion posts in Erie County and community programs.

Brian Lewandowski
609 City Hall
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 852-6500

eriecountylegion.com

Erie County Veterans Services

Must be a veteran or next of kin. Assistance to veterans, veterans' family by providing advocacy and claims processing to ensure that the veteran receives maximum benefits, medical and burial benefits.

Marlene Roll
Edward A Rath County Office Bldg
95 Franklin Street, Suite 800
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 858-6363

marlene.roll@erie.gov
erie.gov/veterans

Genesee County Veterans Service Center

Assists Veterans and their dependents in preparing claims for benefits or privileges to which they may be entitled as administered by the US Department of Veterans Affairs.

Hal Kreter
5130 E Main Street
Batavia, NY 14020
(585) 344-2580

Naval Operation Support Center

Supports Reserve and Active Sailors and their families with deployments and readiness. Helps children with parent's deployments. Provides families readiness briefings, socials gatherings and opportunities for families to socialize.

3 Porter Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14201
(716) 883-1016

navyreserve.navy.mil

New York National Guard Military Family Assistance Center

Primarily serves active members of the Army and their families, however will serve members and families of all branches.

Deployment and reintegration support for military members and their families. Family Readiness Group holds events for children and families including holiday parties, etc.

Peter Pilc

peter.m.pilc.ctr@mail.mil

Connecticut Street Armory

184 Connecticut Street

Buffalo, NY 14213

(716) 888-5797

Niagara County Veterans Service Agency

Provides services to veterans and their dependents. Assist with filing claims with the Department of Veteran Affairs for pension, compensation, education, burial allowance, grave markers, NYS property tax exemption, and any other benefit that is veteran related.

Alvin Thompson

111 Main Street, Suite 200

Lockport, NY 14094

(716) 438-4090

Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom

Assist in enrolling in VA health care and support families in transition from military life back to civilian life.

Katherine Smythe

Katherine.Smythe@va.gov

3495 Bailey Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14215

(716) 862-7344

Operation Family Caregiver

Operation Family Caregiver coaches the families of returning service members and veterans to manage the difficulties they face when they come home. Through proven methods, the program teaches military families how best to navigate their challenges,

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTERS - NEW YORK STATE

Strong Bonds

Strengthen relationships through education, communication and fun with other military families. Programs for couples, singles and families.

Robert Volk

Robert.f.volk.mil.mail.mil

Wounded Warrior Project

Assist family members adjusting to life with a wounded service member

370 7th Avenue, Suite 1802

woundedwarriorproject.org

New York, New York 10001

(212) 629-8881

resourcecenter@woundedwarriorproject.org

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTERS - NATIONAL

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Matches children with safe, screened, trusted mentors in one-to-one relationship that have the potential to last for many years.

(813) 720-8778

www.bbbs.org

ChildCare Aware

Provides personnel assistance in locating, selecting, and offsetting the cost of civilian child care when on-base child care is not available. Provides subsidies for eligible military dependents enrolled in quality commercial child care programs. Subsidy amounts based on total family income for those eligible and supplies monthly payments directly to the prospective child care provider.

1515 N. Courthouse Road, 3rd Floor

Arlington, A 22201 usa.childcareaware.org/military-programs/

(703) 341-4100

Military Child Education Coalition

Provides quality educational experiences for all military-connected children affected by mobility, family separations, and transition.

909 Mountain Lion Circle
Harker Heights, TX 76548
(254) 953-1923

militarychild.org

Military Kids Connect

Website for military kids to connect with each other.

militarykidsconnect.org

Military One Click

Their mission is to enhance the lives of military families and friends of the military community in just one click. The site connects you with the latest news, job opportunities, deals, and countless other valuable resources.

support@militaryoneclick.com

militaryoneclick.com

Military OneSource

A confidential Department of Defense funded program providing comprehensive information on every aspect of military life at no cost to active duty, Guard and Reserve Component members and their families. Information includes, but is not limited to, deployment, reunion, relationship, grief, spouse employment and education, parenting, childhood, and much more.

(800) 342-9647

militaryonesource.com

National Military Family Association

Provides information about educational opportunities, help understanding legislation that affects military families, and help navigating health care options.

3601 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 425
Alexandria, VA 22304
(703) 931-6632

info@militaryfamily.org
militaryfamily.org

Operation Homefront

Assists military families during difficult financial times by providing food assistance, auto and home repair, vision care, travel and

transportation, moving assistance, essential home items, and financial assistance.

1355 Central Parkway S. Ste. 100

operationhomefront.net

San Antonio, TX 78232

(210) 659-7756

(877) 265-3968 Emergency Assistance

Our Military Kids

Children ages 3 years through 12th grade of deployed National Guard and Reserve members or all Wounded Warriors. Provides grants to children of deployed National Guard and Reserve personnel and children of all Wounded Warriors to cover fees for tutoring, athletic, or fine arts programs. Such grants allow these children to participate in activities that might otherwise be unavailable to them because of economic hardships or because they live too far from a military installation.

Michelle Nelson

OMKInquiry@ourmilitarykids.org

(703) 734-6654

ourmilitarykids.org

Zero to Three

Resources tailored to the the needs, strengths, and interest of young children of Veteran families, as well as professional who serve them.

1255 23rd Street, NW Suite 350

zerotothree.org

Washington, DC 20037

(800) 899-4301

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT



Parent Network specializes in empowering families to learn about services, communicate effectively with professionals, and to successfully advocate for their children. Parent Network also works with professionals by providing continuing education opportunities, resources and referral services.



The ECDC provides free information, referral, technical assistance and support to families, professionals, and community agencies concerned with children birth to five with suspected or diagnosed delays or disabilities. They provide ongoing community training programs for both the parents and professionals.

DISABILITY RELATED ACRONYMS

A

- ACCES-VR - Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation
- ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act
- ADD - Attention Deficit Disorder
- ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- ADL - Activities of Daily Living
- AES - Adaptive Equipment Specialist
- AIS - Academic Intervention Services
- AO - Aging Out
- AT - Assistive Technology
- APS - Adult Protective Services

B

- BHO - Behavior Health Organization
- BIP - Behavior Intervention Plan
- BOCES - Board of Cooperative Educational Services

C

- CAB - Consumer Advisory Board
- CAH - Care at Home
- CAP - Client Assistance Program
- CARE - Consumer/Advocate Review and Evaluation
- CASA - Community Alternative Systems Agency
- CCSI - Coordinated Children's Services Initiatives
- CH - Community Habilitation
- CHIP - Children's Health Insurance Program
- CHP - Child Health Plus
- CI - Community Inclusion
- CP - Cerebral Palsy
- CPS - Child Protective Services
- CPEP - Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program
- CPSE - Committee on Preschool Special Education
- CQCAPD - Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

- CR - Commissioner's Regulations
- CRP - Children's Residential Program
- CSE - Committee on Special Education
- CSP - Community Services Plan
- CSW - Certified Social Worker
- CSS - Consolidated Supports & Services
- CT - Consultant Teacher
- CTE - Center for Transportation Excellence

D

- DA - Developmental Aide
- DD - Developmental Disabilities
- DDP - Developmental Disabilities Profile
- DDPC - Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
- DDRO - Developmental Disabilities Regional Office
- DFA - Department of Family Assistance
- DISCO - Developmental Disabilities Individual Support and Care Coordination Organization
- DME - Durable Medical Equipment
- DOH - Department of Health
- DQA - Division of Quality Assurance
- DSS - Department of Social Services
- DTx - Day Treatment

E

- EAP- Employee Assistance Program
- ECDC - Early Childhood Direction Centers
- EEOC - Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- EI - Early Intervention
- EIS - Environmental Impact Statement
- EMOD - Environmental Modification
- EPSDT - Early Periodic Screening & Diagnostic Treatment Program
- ESEA - Elementary and Secondary Education Act

F

- FA- Family Assistance
- FAPE - Free and Appropriate Public Education
- FAS - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- FBA - Functional Behavior Assessment
- FC - Family Care
- FD - Front Door
- FDF - Front Door Facilitator
- FERPA - Family Education & Right to Privacy Act
- FET - Family Education and Training
- FFC - Foster Family Care
- FOIL - Freedom of Information Law
- FSS - Family Support Services

H

- HCBS - Home Community Based Waiver
- HCRA - Health Care Reform Act
- HHS - Health and Human Services
- HMO - Health Maintenance Organization
- HUD - Housing and Urban Development

I

- IBS - Intensive Behavioral Services
- IC - Informed Choice
- ICS - Individual Community Services
- IDEA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- IEE - Independent Educational Evaluation
- IEP - Individualized Education Program
- IFSP - Individualized Family Service Plan
- ILC - Independent Living Center
- IPE - Individualized Plan for Employment
- IPOP - Individualized Plan of Protective Oversight & Services
- IRA - Individualized Residential Alternative
- IRWE - Impairment Related Work Expense
- ISP - Individualized Service Plan
- ISS - Individual Support Services

- ITT - Interdisciplinary Treatment Team
- IUR - Independent Utilization Review
- IWRP - Individual Written Rehabilitation Plan

L

- LC - Life Coach
- LCED - Level of Care Eligibility Determination
- LD - Learning Disability
- LDANYS - Learning Disabilities Association of New York State
- LRE - Least Restrictive Environment

M

- MA - Medicaid Assistance
- MSC - Medicaid Service Coordinator
- MUR - Medicaid Utilization Review

N

- NIMH - National Institute of Mental Health
- NOD - Notice of Determination
- NP - Nurse Practitioner
- NYSCB - New York State Commission for the Blind
- NYSED - New York State Education Department

O

- OASAS - Office of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services
- OCFS - Office of Children and Family Services
- OCYFS - Office for Children, Youth and Family Support
- OCR - Office for Civil Rights
- OEOD - Office of Equal Opportunity Development
- OFT - Governor's Office for Technology
- OHCD - Organized Health Care Delivery System
- OMH - Office of Mental Health
- OPWDD - Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
- OSERS - Office of Special Education & Rehabilitation Services
- OT - Occupational Therapy

- OTDA - The NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

P

- PA - Physician's Assistant
- PA - Public Assistance
- PASS - Plan for Achieving Self Support
- PBIS - Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies
- PCP - Person Centered Planning
- PCSS - Plan of Care Support Services
- PLEP - Present Level of Educational Performance
- PSA - Protective Services for Adults
- PT - Physical Therapy
- PWS - Prader-Willi Syndrome

Q

- QA - Quality Assurance
- QIDP - Qualified Intellectual Disability Professional

R

- RBITU - Regional Behavioral Intensive Treatment Unit
- RSE-TASC - Regional Support Education - Technical Assistance Support Centers
- RSFO - Revenue Support Field Office
- RTI - Response to Intervention

S

- SC - Service Coordinator
- SCIP - Strategies for Crisis Intervention & Prevention
- SD - Self Determination
- SEMP - Supportive Employment Medicaid Program
- SILC - Statewide Independent Living Council
- SLP - Speech/Language Pathology
- SMP - Strategic Management Plan
- SNAP - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- SNT - Supplemental Needs Trust
- SODH - State Operated Day Habilitation

- SP - Speech Pathology
- SSA - Social Security Administration
- SSDI - Social Security Disability Insurance
- SSI - Supplemental Security Income

T

- TANF - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- TASH - The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps
- TBI -Traumatic Brain Injury
- TDD - Telephone Device for the Deaf
- TRAUD - Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities
- TTY - Teletypewriter

U

- UCPA - United Cerebral Palsy Association

V

- VOCCR - Voluntary Operated Community Residence

W

- WIC -Women, Infants, Children

NOTES

RESOURCE GUIDE CHANGE FORM

The form below is used to update information about any changes to resources. Please complete the information requested below for all changes.

Circle one option for the information provided on this form:

ADD UPDATE REMOVE

Name of Resource: _____

Description: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Service Member Type: _____

Family members served: _____

Please send to plk@parentnetworkwny.org or mail to:

Parent Network of WNY

1000 Main Street

Buffalo, NY 14202

Attention: Peg

NOTES

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.parentnetworkwny.org Parent Network of Western New York

www.wchob.org/ecdc Early Childhood Direction Center

www2.erie.gov/ecod Erie County Office for the Disabled

www.buffaloplace.com The Buffalo Place

www.beenews.com The Bee News

www.ddawny.org The Developmental Disabilities

Alliance of Western New York

Central Referral Services website for locating services for people with developmental disabilities: www.ddinfolink.org