

**"Programs and Services Available for National Guard Families and Children"**



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**Background**

- Educator
- At-Risk Focus
- PhD and Dissertation Topic
- Military Connection
- Service to Military Families

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**National Guard 101**

- 371 Years Old-oldest component of the Armed Forces
- Colonists organized militias
- Has carried a dual status (both federal and state responsibilities) since the War of Independence
- Decades following Viet Nam required little participation
- Desert Storm-75,000 Guardsmen deployed
- OEF/OIF/Noble Eagle-89,666 currently activated/388,854 since 2002 (as of 15 Sep 09)

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### National Guard Families

- Located in every community nation-wide
- Most (61%) do not have access to military installations/bases
- Often do not have a support base like Active Component families
- 41% have children
- 30% don't consider themselves 'military' and are unlikely to seek out the services offered by the military during deployment

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### Personal Resources

- Physical Activity
- Routines
- Journaling
- Communication Plan
- Preparation-  
[www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil)
- Tracking Time
- Volunteering

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### Community Resources

- Schools
- Child Care Providers
- YMCA
- Boys and Girls Clubs
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- Colleges/Universities
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Local Armories

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## Military Resources

- State Family Program- Family Assistance Specialists
- Family Readiness Groups- <http://www.jointservicesupport.org>
- Strong Bonds- PREP Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program
- NMFA's Operation Purple Camps- <http://www.nmfa.org>
- Military OneSource- <http://www.militaryonesource.com/MOS/About/CounselingServices.aspx>
- Tri-Care Behavioral Health Services- [http://tricare.mil/mybenefit/Download/Forms/BHC\\_Flyer\\_09\\_L.pdf](http://tricare.mil/mybenefit/Download/Forms/BHC_Flyer_09_L.pdf)
- Our Military Kids- [www.ourmilitarykids.org](http://www.ourmilitarykids.org)

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## Final Thoughts

- National Guard families experience deployment differently
- Must rely on personal, community, and military resources to get through it successfully

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