
From: "Cheryl Kregel" <cheryl@westongov.com>

Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 3:36 PM

To: "Bill Lambert" <blambert@westongov.com>, "Marty Ertman" <adpro@vcn.com>, "Randy Rossman" <carol.rossman@me.com>, "Tony Barton" <tbarton@westongov.com>, "Tracy Hunt" <thunt@westongov.com>

Subject: FW: Month of the Military Child

This is the information you will need to know about when Stacy visits with you all on the 7th of April at 11:00 a.m.

This should help.



Cheryl

Cheryl Kregel

Weston County Clerk

cheryl@westongov.com

1 West Main

Newcastle, WY 82701

(307)746-2684

(307)746-9505 Fax

From: Stacy Ann Buchholz [<mailto:STACY@uwyo.edu>]

Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 2:32 PM

To: cheryl@westongov.com

Subject: Month of the Military Child

Hello Cheryl!

Please find attached the draft 2015 proclamation to promote the month of the military child. I will be presenting this along with some basic information about the month of the military child at the commissioners meeting. Below find a brief description of OMK and the month of the military child. Thanks!

April is the month of the military child, and in Wyoming we work recognize sacrifices made by military families and their children. Not heavily promoted, Operation Military Kids, (OMK) gives families and especially youths tools to be resilient during a deployment but also during reintegration of the family upon a parent's return. OMK supports children of deployed soldiers from all branches of the military including National Guard and Reserve. Regulations restrict military identification of families.

"We know there are military families in every county," said Eloise Riley, OMK coordinator based in Laramie County. "It's becoming a challenge to find them in the counties that are far from southeast Wyoming." Riley said about 5,000 military sons and daughters are in Wyoming, but that number doesn't include extended family relationships such as siblings or aunts and uncles deployed. Those deployed can wrestle financial stresses upon return or post traumatic stress disorder and its affects not only upon them but family members. Riley said studies have found bringing family members together after a deployment is becoming a concern. OMK offers resources for the family, activities to help build family relationships and organizes events such as camps for children and adults. "The most common remark after attending an event is that they were so glad they came and met others going through the same struggles," said Riley.

OMK Wyoming is part of the Wyoming 4-H program through UW Extension. Military children look the same to teachers, friends and the community after a parent deploys, but their lives have changed dramatically, said Johnathan Despain, state 4-H director. "We want to help them connect with other youths in similar situations and to use the Operation: Military Kids and 4-H Military Partnership initiatives as a way to link with other youths in the community," he said. OMK is not just for the sons and daughters of military families. "Deployment and the return home of troops affects a lot of people," said Mary Louise Wood, extension 4-H educator in Albany County. "It could be an aunt or uncle. It may be their soccer coach or their favorite teacher. Wyoming is just a small town with really long streets, and what happens to one person touches so many."

Stacy Buchholz

4-H/Youth Development Educator

University of Wyoming Extension

Weston County

1225 Washington Boulevard, Suite #4

Newcastle, WY 82701

(307)746-3531

FAX (307)746-2870

stacy@uwyo.edu

<http://www.wyomingextension.org/weston4h/>

<http://www.facebook.com#!/pages/Weston-County-4-H/327381443969260>

