



Ready Families... Anytime, Anywhere

BUCKEYE FAMILIES

Winter 2011

Lieutenant Colonel Julie Blike, State Family Program Director

CPT Angela Bailey, Assistant State Family Program Director

Angela Dyer, Contracted TFAC Coordinator

Diana Whatmough, Sr. Family Readiness Support Assistant

Jennifer Moore, Editor, jennifer.l.moore2@us.army.mil

2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235

Toll Free number 800-589-9914 Website: www.ong.ohio.gov/family

Educate, Communicate and Market Family Readiness

Contracted Troop & Family Assistance Centers (TFACs)

Susan Bogan/Andrew Seward/Toni Duncombe – Columbus	800-589-9914
Margret Szymanski – Bowling Green	866-278-5755
Brian Via – Cincinnati	866-278-5757
Jennifer Moore – Portsmouth/Chillicothe	866-270-8283
Joyce Stingel/Melissa Wise - Akron/Canton	866-278-5756
Jerry Wiggins/Robin Robbins – Kettering	866-278-5759

After Hour or Emergency Contacts

Angela Dyer	614-302-8228
Diana Whatmough*	614-270-5638

Contracted State Youth Program

Sue Ann Carroll – State Coordinator	877-460-2177
Erin Berry – OMK Specialist	614-336-7314

Airman & Family Program Manager

Carolyn Ebert – Rickenbacker*	614-492-4417
Jane Esprit – Springfield*	937-525-2583
Faline Rowland – Mansfield*	419-520-6600
Judy York – Toledo*	419-868-4550

Army Regional Volunteer

Phillipa Smith – Columbus*	614-946-3710
Mary Muntz – Toledo/Bowling Green*	330-416-7140
Michelle Shutler – Akron/Canton*	330-606-1103

Air GSU (Geographically Separated Units)

Amy Hernandez – Blue Ash*	513-936-2949
---------------------------	--------------

Transition Assistance Advisor

Terry Dean	614-336-7349
Mike Magnusson	614-336-4192

Military One Source Consultant

Gary Cooper	614-336-7319
-------------	--------------

Military Family Life Consultant

Tom Whiteman	614-336-7479
Walt Lubecki	614-336-6000 ext 1413

Financial Consultant

Brian Haehl	614-336-4212
-------------	--------------

* Denotes: – Joint Family Council Member

If you would like to contribute to the Buckeye Family Newsletter about what's happening in your unit, please forward your submission to the editor at Jennifer.l.moore2@us.army.mil. The next edition is scheduled for April 2011.

Commanders, FRML, and FRG Leader Teams - Mark your Calendars for the 2011 Annual Family Readiness Conference, 8-10 April 2011, in Columbus OH.

From LTC Julie Blike...

As we close the books on 2010 and look forward to the future, I am proud to report that 2011 promises to be an exciting year for Family Readiness and Warrior Support programs. You can catch a glimpse of what 2011 has to offer in the “Family Readiness and Warrior Support 2011 Programs of Events and Resources”; it has been published and distributed so be sure to ask your Soldier/Airmen for a copy if they have not already brought one home. The Ohio National Guard Family Readiness and Warrior Support Program is committed to ensuring our team of Soldiers, Airmen, and Family members are properly resourced for success. I believe the resources and events highlighted within this guide provide access to proven programs that will facilitate strong Soldiers, Airmen, and Families throughout the deployment cycle.

As we roll into 2011, I also strongly encourage our entire National Guard family to be proactive and explore the capabilities resident in the Ohio National Guard's six regional Troop and Family Assistance Centers (TFACs). It is important that every Soldier/Airman/Family Member understand the capabilities and resources available to them so they are better able to respond during times of crisis. Our TFAC Specialists provide direct support to our Soldiers, Airmen, and Families through their work with community partners (local, state, and national governmental, non-governmental, veteran service organizations and private interests). The TFACs serve as a conduit to a consortium of resources intended to build resiliency and provide direct support to our military community. These resources may include but are not limited to financial counseling, emergency relief, emotional counseling services, employment and job assistance and other services associated with managing family life. To learn more, contact the TFAC that is closest to where you live.

Mark Your Calendars!
RISFAC
**Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance
Committee Meetings**
Meeting Schedule JAN-OCT 2011

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 – RISFAC Meeting

Date: **27 Jan, 21 April, 21 July, 20 Oct 2011**
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Location: Vets Service Commission of Summit County
Address: 1060 E. Waterloo Rd. Akron, OH 44306
Phone: 330-643-7636

Family Assistance Center Specialist: Joyce Stingel and Melissa Wise
Office Phone: 866-278-5756
Mobile: 330-730-9243
Email: joyce.stingel1@us.army.mil
Email: melissa.wise@us.army.mil

Region 2 – RISFAC Meeting

Date: **19 Jan, 20 Apr, 20 July, 19 Oct 2011**
Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Location: Ross County Service Center Conference Room A or TBD
Address: 475 Western Avenue, Chillicothe OH 45601
Phone: 740-702-3120 (Roberta Tackett)

Family Assistance Center Specialist: Jennifer Moore
Office Phone: 866-270-8283
Mobile: 740-637-0340
Email: jennifer.l.moore2@us.army.mil

Region 3 – RISFAC Meeting

Date: **25 Jan, 21 April, 26 July, 25 Oct 2011**
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Location: Woodlawn Community Center
Address: 10050 Woodlawn Blvd, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215
Phone: 614-336-6714

Family Assistance Center Specialist: Brian Via
Office Phone: 866-278-5757
Mobile: 513-869-9248
Email: brian.via@us.army.mil

Region 4 – RISFAC Meeting

Date: **25 Jan, 26 Apr, 26 Jul, 25 Oct 2011**
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Location: Dayton Area American Red Cross
Address: 370 W. First Street Dayton, Ohio 45402
Phone: 937-222-6711

Family Assistance Center Specialist: Jerry Wiggins and Robin Robbins
Office Phone: 866-278-5759
Mobile: 937-751-8472
Email: jerry.wiggins1@us.army.mil
Email: robin.robbins1@us.army.mil

Region 5 – RISFAC Meeting

Date: **27 January and 26 July 2011**
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Location: Hancock County Red Cross Chapter
Address: 125 Fair Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840
Phone: (419) 422-9322

Date: **19 April and 11 October 2011**
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Location: Richland County Red Cross Chapter
Address: 39 North Park, Mansfield, Ohio 44902
Phone: (419) 524-0311

Family Assistance Center Specialist: Margret Szymanski
Office Phone: 866-278-5755
Mobile: 419-494-2959
Email: margret.szymanski@us.army.mil

Region 6 – RISFAC Meeting

Date: **19 Jan, 20 April, 20 July, 19 Oct 2011**
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Location: OSU 4-H Youth Development Building
Address: 2201 Fred Taylor Rd. Columbus, OH 43210

Family Assistance Center Specialist: Toni Duncombe and Susan Bogan
Office Phone: 800-589-9914
Mobile: 614-406-2148
Email: toni.duncombe@us.army.mil
Email: susan.bogan@us.army.mil

Going Green

Great News! The Buckeye Family Newsletter will soon be sent electronically! Stay tuned and we will keep you posted as we work through the process.

Helpful Resources

Military OneSource News

Give Yourself the Gift of Simplicity

The military lifestyle is fast-paced and demanding any time of year. Add in the winter holidays and stress levels can skyrocket. Our newest audio, "Simplify," narrated by writer Mary Pipher, can help you to slow down, relax, and gain a greater sense of peace in your life. Tracks include "Simplifying Your Time;" "Simplicity and Family Life;" "The Gift of Quiet Time;" and "A New Way of Seeing and Being." Give yourself the gift of simplicity. "Simplify" is available now through www.MilitaryOneSource.com or by calling 1-800-342-9647.

Save Yourself a Bundle With Military Saves

Military Saves is a social marketing campaign that's meant to persuade, motivate, and encourage military families to save money every month. Go to the Military Saves site at www.MilitarySaves.org for monthly newsletters with practical tips about making savings a priority all year round. Start small, think big, and take the pledge (to save) today. For more information about savings programs designed just for members of the armed forces, be sure to read these Military OneSource articles: The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), The Savings Deposit Program (SDP), and Military Personal Financial Management Programs. Type the title into the search box at www.MilitaryOneSource.com.

For Your Benefit

Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces
<https://smms.army.pentagon.mil/EPO/>
1-877-450-HIRE(4473)

The Employer Partnership (EP) was created as a way to provide America's employers with a direct link to some of America's finest employees - Service Members and their families. Through the partnership, Service Members can leverage their military training and experience for career opportunities in today's civilian job market with national, regional, and local Employer Partners.

Similar to a recruiter, the Employer Partnership have PSM's to assist Service Members and their families in their quest for suitable employment. PSM's work as

liaisons with human resources departments at employer partners and various other employers and agencies across the region. In addition, they post information about job fairs and events and work with Service members to refine their applications for employment, resume writing, and interviewing skills.

Your Finances

Taxes: That wonderful time of the year.

The wonderful season is upon us yet again. That time when you sit with your family and try to remember all of the activities of 2010 and remember which ones may help you lower your annual tax bill. That time of year where you make your New Year's resolution of doing a better job at keeping records... and this time you mean it!

As we go through this process remember that the American Dream is not to receive a large tax refund. The idea that you have "lent" your money to the government at a 0% interest rate while your credit card debt is racking up a healthy 18-24% is probably not the best financial move you can make. The goal is to break even on your taxes every year. With a well thought out plan of having the necessary dollar amount withheld out of your paycheck and no more, this allows you to keep the bulk of your hard earned dollars in your own pocket where they belong.

The idea of tax preparation is one that most people dread, not only do they hate calculating it, they also hate paying for it. The following websites may provide you a small amount of relief:

- 1) MilitaryOneSource.com has created a relationship with H&R Block. By logging into www.militaryonesource.com you have the opportunity to take advantage of H&RBlock.com's tax preparation website **at no cost**.
- 2) For those of you that don't have internet access or would rather work with a tax preparer, the Ohio Benefit Bank provides **free** tax preparation at locations around the State. Check to see if you are eligible at www.ohiobenefits.org
- 3) For those Service Members that are currently deployed or have recently returned from deployment, the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants has graciously offered the services of their members around the State to provide **free** tax preparation. To find a CPA volunteer in your area log on to www.ohioscpa.com.

Paying taxes is a wonderful time of the year to know that you are doing your part in helping our country function. However, it is also your patriotic duty to pay as little as possible. It is with this in mind that we hope you use the above resources to their highest use and you use the extra money to pay off your debt, increase your cash reserve, or invest for the future.

Happenings Around the State

Christmas Memories

On December 12, 2010 Delta Co, 1-148th IN, held their annual Christmas party at one of the local bowling alleys. The FRG and Soldiers claim that it was for the kids (thinking they meant their children). Not so. I wish you could have seen those Soldiers laughing and bowling and really ragging on each other. One smile was bigger than the one next to it. The spirit of the season went on and on.

You've never seen a bunch of Soldiers put away so much pizza. They just kept bringing tray after tray out and setting them all over the bowling alley. If you happened to be walking past one of the tables, you nearly got knocked down. And don't dare stick your hand in there to get a piece. You might not get it back in the same condition as when it went in.

The Soldiers are preparing to deploy soon and we wanted to make it the best party they have had. Mission accomplished. Our FRG is really great! There are four ladies who just beat their brains out to do things for their spouses and commanders. This all took place in the middle of a huge snow storm. It started out as rain, and then changed to a heavy wet snow about 8 a. m. By the time the party started it was really getting bad. As many of the soldiers live a great distance from where the party was held and with the weather getting worse, CPT. Klosterman released the Soldiers early to ensure that they would get home safely. We are still basking in the afterglow. We had so much fun. We just love them all. Big hugs were given all around as we all got ready to leave. There is nothing on this earth that is so much a reward or thank you as a BIG hug from a Soldier. That's what it's all about for me, anyway.

GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU.
MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

Jan and Neil Lippus

KID'S KORNER

Ohio National Guard Youth Program



Nationwide Children's Hospital can provide assistance to National Guard, Reserve and Active duty service men, women, and their families through their Help Me Grow Program. Help Me Grow is a home visit program that gives your family information about how your child will grow and learn, connect you with other helpful services and teach parenting skill and how to be your child's first teacher.

Who is Eligible?

A child under 3 with one parent in National Guard, Reserves or Active military duty. Specifically, Help Me Grow can assist active duty military families and their children (prenatal to age three) who are:

- Facing deployment and are concerned with the impact on their child and family.
- Looking for help in ways to maintain strong parent connections for parents away from the home.
- Wanting help with community resources designed for families in similar circumstances.
- Desiring support to ensure that their child or children develop well amongst the stressors of military life.

For more information please contact either of the following:

Justin Fogt, MSW, LSW
Help Me Grow Service Coordinator
Nationwide Children's Hospital
The Center for Child and Family Advocacy
Phone: (614) 722-8260
Fax: (614) 722--8420
Justin.Fogt@NationwideChildrens.org
www.NationwideChildrens.org

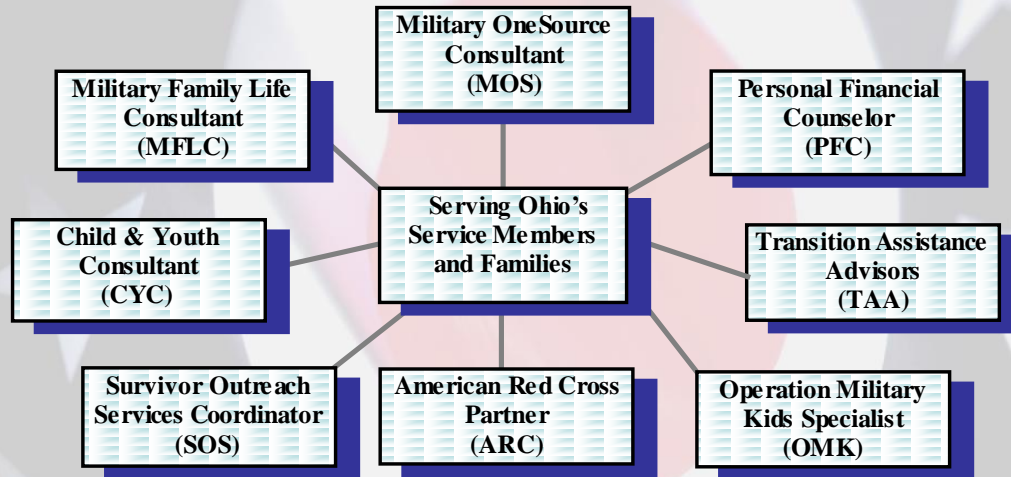
Erin Berry
Operation: Military Kids
Youth Program Specialist
2825 W Dublin Granville Rd
Columbus, OH 43235
Phone: (614) 336-7314
erin.berry@us.army.mil

Ohio Joint Family Support Assistance Program

2825 West Dublin Granville Road—Columbus, OH 43235

1-800-589-9914 www.ong.ohio.gov/family

The Ohio JFSAP team executes its mission as part of the ONG Family Readiness and Warrior Support Program



Ohio JFSAP is a team of caring professionals aligned to assist military leadership and family readiness staff and volunteers in providing resources, programs and services to support the resiliency of Ohio's service members and families.

Military Family Life Consultant

Walt Lubecki — Provides life skills information and education. Conducts outreach and provides referral services to community resources. Provides direct, short-term, solution-focused counseling to individuals, couples, families, and groups. [walt.x.lubecki@mhn.com] [office: 614-336-6000ext1413] [cell: 614-208-3692]

Child & Youth Consultant

Tom Whiteman — Provides parenting and child development information and education. Conducts outreach and provides referral services to community resources. Provides direct, short-term, solution-focused counseling to children, youth and young families. [thomas.x.whiteman@mhn.com] [office: 614-336-7479] [cell: 614-787-4022]

Military OneSource Consultant

Gary Cooper — Serves as the MOS specialist on resources, programs and services for Military Families. Conducts outreach and partners with organizations to develop resources to address unmet needs. Identifies, catalogs, and publicizes resources to the Military Family assistance networks. [gary.j.cooper@militaryonesource.com] [office: 614-336-7319] [cell: 614-329-0143]

Transition Assistance Advisors

Serve as a first line of support for returning Veterans to help troubleshoot concerns surrounding their benefits and any other issues they may encounter when they return from deployment or transition back into civilian life.
Terry Dean [terry.w.dean@us.army.mil] [office: 614-336-7349]
Mike Magnusson [michael.j.magnusson@us.army.mil] [office: 614-336-4192] [cell: 614-906-7067]

Operation Military Kids Specialist

Erin Berry — Connects military children and youth with appropriate youth programs where they live. Assists in the delivery of a wide range of resiliency building recreational, social and educational programs for military youth such as youth camps, camaraderie events, and Yellow Ribbon events. [erin.berry@us.army.mil] [office: 614-336-7314] [cell: 614-406-4809] www.operationmilitarykids.ohio4h.org

Personal Financial Counselor

Brian Haehl — Connects service members and families to financial programs, resources and services. Conducts outreach to units/CDRs to provide needs assessments and financial counseling. Provides financial education briefings. Works to build coalitions and catalog finance / tax programs and organizations. [brian.d.haehl@mhn.com] [office: 614-336-4212] [cell: 614-325-0537]

Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator

Provides long-term support for Surviving Family Members of the Ohio Army Guard, Reserve and Active components. Provides traditional assistance related to benefit issues; financial guidance-or referral to financial professional, personal or family support; counseling; notification of new resources or legislation impacting survivors. **Scott Creed** [scott.creed@us.army.mil] [office: 614-336-7375] [cell: 614-735-7797]
Angela Brittain [angela.k.brittaintr@us.army.mil] [office: 614-336-4284]

Red Cross Partner

Jim Strause — JFSAP liaison to the Red Cross chapter network in Ohio. Through Red Cross chapters, assists in identifying and providing referrals to community resources. Supports local Family Readiness Group initiatives, including resilience training. Supports Ohio Red Cross chapters in delivering preparedness and safety training to military families. [strausej@usa.redcross.org] [office: 614-251-1798]

Troop & Family Assistance Centers - Airmen & Family Readiness Program Locations

Our regional Troop & Family Assistance Specialists and Airmen & Family Readiness Program Managers are highly trained professionals who provide information, resources, referrals and assistance to all Service Members and Families before, during and after deployments, or whenever there is a need.

Troop & Family Assistance Center Locations:

Region 1: Canton/Akron
5999 Airport Dr, NW
North Canton, OH 44720

Region 2: Portsmouth
2154 Narrows Rd
Chillicothe, OH 45601

Region 3: Cincinnati/Hamilton
3000 Symmes Rd
Hamilton, OH 45015

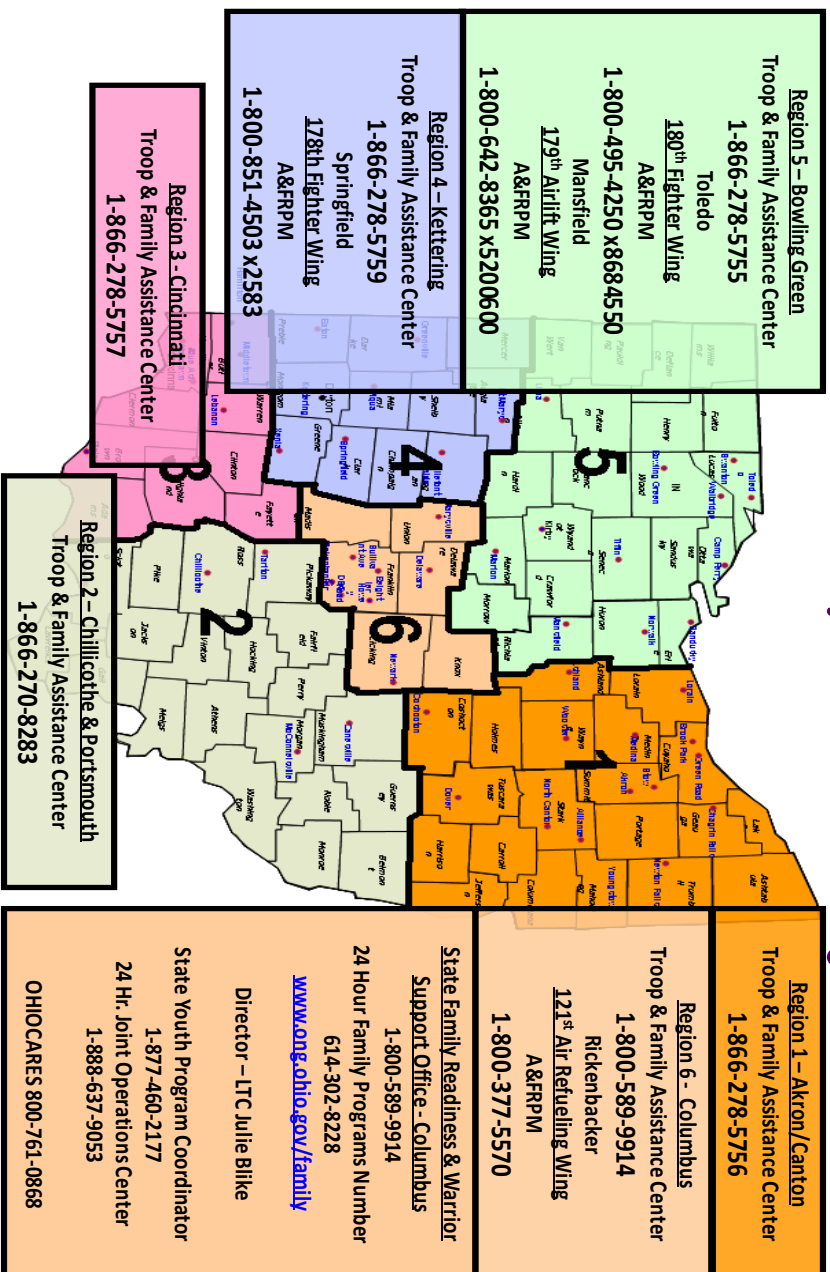
Region 4: Dayton/Kettering
2555 County Line Rd
Kettering, OH 45430

Region 5: Toledo/Bowling Green
1241 West Newton Rd
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Region 6: Columbus
2825 West Dublin Granville Rd
Columbus, OH 43235



Please contact the Troop & Family Assistance Center Specialists or the Airmen & Family Readiness Program Manager within the Region you live



Airmen & Family Readiness Program Manager (A&FRPM)

Locations:

Mansfield—179th AVW
1947 Harrington Memorial Rd
Mansfield, OH 44903

Toledo—180th FW
2660 South Eber Rd
Swanton, OH 43558

Springfield—178th FW
5319 Regula Ave
Springfield, OH 45502

Columbus—121st ARW
7370 Minuteman Way
Columbus, OH 43217

- Types of assistance we provide:**
- Emergency Family Assistance
 - Education Resources
 - Mobilization Information
 - Personal Outreach Calls
 - Reunion & Reintegration Services
 - Youth Programs
 - Family Readiness Group Assistance
 - Veterans Assistance
 - Obtaining Military ID Cards
 - TRICARE Referral Assistance