



**NATIONAL SECURITY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**
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Plan of Action 2016-2017

Purpose: To maintain and promote a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military service members and their families.

Objective: Develop, implement and monitor programs and activities that contribute to the practical and emotional well-being of military service members and their families.

Action Steps:

- 1. Participate in Department of Defense and other outside programs that support our military and their families throughout the entire deployment cycle.**
 - a. **Military Family Assistance Centers** – Provide needed support to military members and military families. Call 1-800-292-9464 Option 3 with your Unit contact information and type of support offered.
 - b. **USO** – www.uso.org Provide comfort items to USO locations in Wisconsin
 - c. **Family Readiness Groups**—Contact Reserve or National Guard groups or Military Family Assistance Centers with offers to support the FRG.
 - d. **Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program**- www.yellowribbon.mil
 - i. <http://wisconsinmilitary.org/events/badger-yellow-ribbon>
 - e. **Operation Homefront**- www.operationhomefront.net
- 2. Participate in Military and Family Support Programs of The American Legion -- www.legion.org**
 - a. **Military Family Appreciation Month-November 2016, Military Appreciation Month-May 2017** – Celebrate the sacrifices and service of military families and service members.
 - b. **Gold Star Banner and Blue Star Banner Programs**—Displayed by families with a loved one serving (blue) or killed in combat (gold)
 - c. **POW/MIA Initiatives**—POW/MIA Recognition day, September 16, 2016
- 3. Support implementation of homeland security programs of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary— www.legion.org and www.alaforveterans.org**
 - a. **CERT Training**—first aid, CPR, emergency skills
 - b. **Keep our communities safe - See Something Say Something** – <http://ready.wi.gov/SeeSay>
 - c. **Emergency Preparedness** – <http://ready.wi.gov>
- 4. Provide recognition and support for ROTC and JROTC groups**
 - a. Have JROTC post colors at events
 - b. Reward participation with dinners to recognize their accomplishments

What can you do?

You can contact the Military Family Assistance Centers with a Point of Contact (POC) for your Unit, County or District to be listed as a resource to provide support to military members and their families to assist in meeting their needs. Support the FRG's, by providing refreshments, volunteers or child and youth activities.

Refer service members and their families in need to Military Family Assistance Centers for any type of assistance.

Provide needed items to the USO of Wisconsin locations to lift the spirits of our troops and family members.

Partner with Operation Homefront or Badger Yellow Ribbon Programs to provide volunteers, refreshments or child and youth activities.

Participate in the National Military Family Month and Military Appreciation Month, provide Blue Star or Gold Star Banners to eligible military family members.

Prepare and train for emergencies – complete a CERT course, if you See Something, Say Something to law enforcement, Have an emergency plan and a “Go Bag”, practice your plan at home.

Follow the Legion's POW/MIA Empty Chair Resolution and have a POW/MIA Empty Chair at all official meetings.