



Utah 4-H Military Partnership Program

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Ideas for Local 4-H Month of the Military Child Celebrations

Key Hashtags: #utah4h #Opportunity4All #MonthoftheMilitaryChild
#PurpleUp #VirtualMOMC

Feel free to contact me if you'd like support. Please be sure to let me know what you plan on [our Google Doc.](#)

Ideas for individuals:

- Encourage the community to wear purple on April 23rd
- Make a "thank you" video for the military-connected youth in your family or community.
- Bake a treat and drop it off with a kind note to a military-connected family with kids
- Contact a family member or friend in the service who has children. Let them know you're thinking of them this month and ask them to share about their experience.
- If you have a base in your community, contact the child and youth services department and ask if you can support them in some way this month.

Social Media Ideas:

- What are you thankful for this Month of the Military Child? #VirtualMOMC
- How is your CYP celebrating the Month of the Military Child? #VirtualMOMC
- How is your family celebrating the Month of the Military Child? #VirtualMOMC
- Post a photo of the American Flag flying on your base or in your community. #VirtualMOMC
- Post a photo of your #FrontPorchFamily as we celebrate the Month of the Military Child while practicing social distancing. #VirtualMOMC
- Although social distancing has impacted all of our lives, it does not mean we still cannot have fun. Decorate your front door (or any door) to celebrate the Month of the Military Child and post on social media. #VirtualMOMC



Thank You!



- Decorate a dessert in purple or red, white and blue to celebrate the Month of the Military Child! #VirtualMOMC
- Create a costume or dress up in purple for the Month of the Military Child and post on social media. #VirtualMOMC
- Draw a picture of how your military hero inspires you and post on social media. #VirtualMOMC
- Spell out MOMC with toys or household items, take a picture and post on social media. #VirtualMOMC.
- Share a poem, story or song of how you are proud to be a military child and post on social media. #VirtualMOMC
- As a military child, share reasons why you are proud of your mom and/or dad for serving in the military. #VirtualMOMC
- What does being a military child mean to you? #VirtualMOMC
- Purple Up scavenger hunt! How many purple items can you find in your room? In your house? #VirtualMOMC
- Purple Up Fridays – wear and highlight Purple each Friday in April to celebrate Purple Up for Military Kids. #VirtualMOMC
- What creative ways is your family staying active? Take a photo and post on Month of the Military Child. #VirtualMOMC

Ideas for 4-H, schools, organizations, and communities:

- Host a drive-thru event for military-connected families to give them 4-H kits, swag, goodies, etc. (a great way to invite them to join 4-h)
- Identify one day each week in April to highlight military families. Ideas include: favorite service logo day, patriotic day, Purple day, etc. Dress-up throughout the month of April. Decorate with purple, purple camo, military insignias, etc. (a school, a city hall, a 4-H space, etc.)
- Highlight April as MOMC on a community marquee, and in newsletters.
- Encourage schools or local radio stations to have daily or weekly announcements with military-connected youth facts. Start with national facts and move into school facts (i.e. Military Monday ...Did you know?) Followed by a public “thank you” for their service to our country.
- Throughout the month, ask military connected kids or family members to do the announcements at school or on local radio stations, or share an interesting fact about their life as a military child on the morning news show.
- Decorate display cases and bulletin boards throughout April with military focused memorabilia, or items brought by military kids reflecting their experiences (where





they have live or traveled, family members' service memorabilia, parts of a uniform, patches, coins, models of planes etc.)

- Decorate a local space in flags, purple, and posters! Have a group of youth design posters thanking their families for their service. Have military kids make posters reflecting their experiences. Decorate with purple balloons. Encourage school staff, students, organizations, and community members to wear purple ribbons or carnations on the designated Purple UP day!
- Adopt a deployed service member or unit. Create Care Packages for deployed troops. As a service project collect items from a class, grade, school group, or whole school. Packages can be sent to a student's family member or another unit identified through the school or community. Don't forget notes, card, pictures etc. For ideas of what to send contact a family member, local installation, or Red Cross.
- As a service project adopt a deployed family. Find out what a family with a deployed service member needs help with. A class or school group can help with yard work, in home technology, childcare, tutoring, homework help, a weekend buddy, care package for the kids in the family and/or deployed member. This can be Tricky for some families with deployed member because of confidentiality, but it might be able to be done if handled correctly.
- Ask a military member (a parent or sibling of someone in the class) to be a guest speaker and share their perspective on life in the military as well as their profession.
- As group, club, or community service project youth could send thank you cards to a local military installation. Due to their world-class care at Primary Children's Hill Air Force Base is one of 11 Military Bases around the world that is coded to support families with special needs children as part of the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP). At Hill AFB there are over 600 EFMP families that could receive
- Encourage leadership by military students in the planning and implementation of the activities.
- Tie yellow or purple ribbons, if a school, one per military child in the school, on a tree
- Create a banner to post in the community
- Organize a parade, even if just in a school where everyone dresses up in patriotic outfits and purple
- Organize an art or essay writing contest
- Organize a door decorating challenge with the theme "The Military Child"

