



Extension and Military Collaboration
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) & Department of Defense (DoD) Partnership



The Military, Community, Family & Youth Extension Program (MCFYE) has been established within Purdue University Cooperative Extension and is responsible for the overall leadership and coordination for the Land Grant University system in developing and implementing strategies that lead to sustained support for educational programming, professional development and needs assessment for military youth, families and communities. The MCFYE will focus on collaborating with non-governmental and community-based organizations, youth development agencies, workforce development, educational institutions and child care & youth development expansion needs within the Department of Defense (DoD) Current need-based initiatives are:

Family Readiness Clearing House
Penn State University – Daniel Perkins

Youth Fitness Programs
Michigan State University – Julie Chapin

Database for Child and Youth Report
University of Georgia – Casey D. Mull

Health Literacy Education
West Virginia State University – Bonnie Dunn

Basic Meal Preparation
Ohio State University – Kirk Bloir

Personal Work Life Skills
Purdue University – Shelly Wadsworth

Community Gardening
Cornell University – Lori Bushway

Heart Link & Key Spouse Program Support
Purdue University – Shelly Wadsworth

4-H Out-of-School Programs
Southern University – Gina Eubanks

Training and Materials for Youth Camps
West Virginia University – Dave Snively

Additionally, several other initiatives were identified as needs but have yet to be developed or assigned leadership. They are, Youth Citizenship/Leadership; Child Care Center Technical Assistance; JFSAP Program Evaluation; Purple Deployment Briefs and Community Capacity Building.

Through the Director and the Executive Director, Purdue Extension provides the leadership and the support needed for the Office of MCFYE as well as to collaborate with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to identify educational program needs and the faculty and staff needed to provide leadership. The MCFYE office will also work with NIFA and the Department of Defense to identify opportunities for growth and expansion, including the deployment and sustainability of the funded initiatives.

Other objectives of the MCFYE office include the promotion and support of extension programming for the military community, to identify best practices used in extension programming for military communities, to conduct assessments of current military programs that support the extension mission and to develop innovative practices that support educational programming, professional development and priority setting within the military community.

MCFYE Program Contacts

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