Strengthening Military Families

Release Date: 14 SEP 2020
Subject: Reopening of Armed Services YMCA of Oklahoma
RE: Programs for Q3 and Q4 2020

The Lawton branch office is open Tuesday through Thursday from 0900 -1200, hours subject to change with notification.

Program Overview
Please share this information with your soldiers and marines. Unless listed, programs are open to all ranks.

**Hero’s Pantry**- Soldiers and Marines ranking E1-E5 may apply for a food assistance box monthly.

**Operation Little Bookworm**- Military families will receive 1-book per month with an activity designed to inspire each member of the family to read.

**Operation Little Mathematician**- Military families will receive a monthly activity designed to ignite a love for math and make practicing basic math facts fun.

**Military Welcome Center**- Through a partnership with MOAA, the ASYMCA hosts a Military Welcome Center at the Lawton-Fort Sill Regional Airport offering a restful and relaxing atmosphere for traveling military members and their families.

**Operation Care for Kids**- Apply for a monthly grab bag filled with activities designed to inspire family unity, create conversation, and make memories.

**Operation Baby Bundle**- Expecting and moms with infants can sign up to receive a monthly bag filled with baby items. Through a partnership with KINDE, breastfeeding mothers will receive classes and supplies to store breast milk.
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**Operation Bring Baby Home** - New and expectant parents will be invited to attend a quarterly baby shower. In addition to fun games, giveaways, and care packages, subject matter experts will be present. Spouses will also be encouraged to network.

**Coming Soon Virtual Programs**
All virtual programming will begin 30 SEP.

**Operation Little Learners**: Meeting twice a week for 2-hours each time, parents and guardians learn the skills needed to become their children’s first teacher. In addition to activities, the parents are provided opportunities to network and create a local support system.

**Kids in the Kitchen**: This virtual program is designed to teach elementary aged school children how to make simple healthy snacks, basic cooking and baking techniques, kitchen safety and proper food handling.

**Motivational Mondays**: Positive quotes and uplifting messages will be displayed weekly on our Facebook page as a refreshing way to start the week.

**Talk About it Tuesday**: Each Tuesday our Facebook page will feature a “Coffee & Conversation” topic to allow our followers to engage, connect and share ideas.

**Wednesday Winddown**: A virtual story hour will be hosted every Wednesday.

**Throwback Thursday**: This virtual program will be hosted through our Facebook page. Throwback Thursday is a day to recognize and highlight retired military members of our community.

**Friday Fun Day**: This “fun for all ages” program will feature exciting and easy crafts and activities every Friday on our Facebook page.

**Washer Dryer Program**: E1-E5 may apply for a set. At this time there is no delivery or installation available. Each set is $70. Sets are awarded on a first come, first serve basis.
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**Operation Santa Boots**
We are very excited to announce for the fourth consecutive year, ASYMCA will partner with [Boot Campaign](https://www.bootcampaign.org) for their annual holiday program [Santa Boots](https://www.santa-boots.org) to provide boxes filled with holiday gifts to currently serving military families in need at Fort Sill. Through this partnership we will be able to honor 2 families on post.

Please nominate families you feel could really use some extra holiday cheer. Applications can be found online at [https://www.tfaforms.com/4808698](https://www.tfaforms.com/4808698).

All applications are due Monday 25 OCT.

**Application Overview**
This is an outline of what is included in the application. In order to provide the best package for the family, we ask that you fill out all of the required information. In order to support your efforts, this outline is intended to help you collect the required information from the family before submitting the request.

**Point Of Contact Information** (individual who will support follow up and delivery efforts for the family)
All packages will delivered to the Armed Services YMCA of Oklahoma’s Altus office. Staff will delivery packages between 14 DEC and 24 DEC. If the you would like to go with the staff to deliver, please email Annabel Valencia, [avalencia@asymca.org](mailto:avalencia@asymca.org).

Shipping address: 900 NW Cache Rd, Lawton, Oklahoma 73507

**Family Information**
- Total number of individuals living in home (household size)
- Background Information On The Family - any detail on why they deserve to be a recipient of Santa Boots what the family is challenged with. If you have a photo of the family please share. We love to put a 'face' to the name! *Please note these photos may be used for programmatic support efforts*
- Family Ethnicity (requested for items such as Elf on the Shelf, Dolls, etc.)
- Gaming Console - Yes/No? If Yes, please list the type of console
- Preferred Grocery Store/Chain
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Information Needed for Each Individual Family Member

● First Name & Last Name
○ Phone & Email for main POC
○ Service Member Information - Active or Veteran
● Gender
● Clothing Size (examples: Womens Small/2 Shirt; Women’s Medium/4 Pant OR Men’s 33/33 Pant; 36 B & Medium Intimates etc.)
● Shoe Size (example: Mens 5W or Toddler Size 5)
● Hobbies/Interests
● Wish List (2 needs and 3 wants)