



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
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Media Alert/Photo & Video Opportunity

YMCA Hosts Back-to-School Bash for Military Families

WHAT: The [Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA](#) and [YMCA of the Suncoast](#) are teaming up to host free Back-to-School Bash events on Saturday, July 28, to give back to active duty, guard and reserve military members and their families.

The Back-to-School Bash, focused on health and well-being, provides a fun environment for Tampa Bay's military community to learn about the Y's unique services and programs designed especially for service members and their loved ones, as well as an opportunity to learn about the Y's special military rates on membership and summer camp.

"The Y recognizes the unique needs of our area's military population, and we want to demonstrate our support and appreciation for our servicemen and women and their families by hosting fun-filled events such as the Back-to-School Bash," says Scott Goyer, president and CEO of the YMCA of the Suncoast.

Local participating locations include the [South Tampa Family YMCA](#) and the [Clearwater YMCA](#). Each of these locations is offering free, family fun activities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., including a free backpack giveaway to pre-registered families (supplies limited). Members of the military community need to register online at FLMilitaryB2SBash2018.eventbrite.com

WHEN: Saturday, July 28th, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

WHERE: [South Tampa Family YMCA](#), 4411 S. Himes Ave., Tampa, FL 33611
[Clearwater YMCA](#), 1005 S. Highland Ave. Clearwater, FL 33756

WHY: The Tampa Y is committed to giving students the supplies they need in order to succeed in school, as part of its efforts to close the achievement gap between children from lower-income households and their middle/upper-income peers. The Back-To-School Bash was originally started by the First Coast YMCA in partnership with Building Healthy Military Communities, a Department of Defense initiative to better understand the unique challenges faced by geographically-dispersed service members and their families. Other Ys hosting events this Saturday include the YMCA of Florida First Coast, YMCA of South Florida and YMCA of Northwest Florida.

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About the Tampa Y

The Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA is a cause-driven [4-star charity](#), strengthening Hillsborough and East Pasco communities for 129 years, through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the Association, 18 facilities engage nearly 160,000 men, women and children — regardless of age, income or background — to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve our community's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. The Tampa Y has long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. www.tampaymca.org