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Tampa Y Shows Support for Armed Forces during Military Family Month

Tampa, FL (November 1, 2013) – Military Family Month provides all Americans the opportunity to recognize the dedication, sacrifice and service of military personnel and their families. [The Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA](#) recognizes military families this November and all year round by bringing families together to have fun, grow, strengthen their relationships and build connections with other families waiting at home.

In honor of Military Family Month, the Tampa YMCA is offering ALL military members and their families a waived join fee and a \$10 gift certificate for programs. Further, in partnership with the [Armed Services YMCA \(ASYMCA\)](#) and the Department of Defense, the Tampa Y is proud to offer free family memberships to title 10 military personnel to give them extra support during deployment or relocation. It's the Y's way of giving back to those who dedicate themselves to serving our country. Military families can see if they are eligible for free membership at [all Tampa YMCA branches](#) through the [Military Outreach Initiative](#) website.

"The Y encourages everyone to recognize the sacrifices military members and their families make in service to our country," says Communications Director Lalita Llerena. "Residents of Hillsborough and East Pasco counties can also show support for military personnel by getting involved with the Tampa Y or other local organizations that help military families here in the community."

First established by ASYMCA and recognized by first lady Nancy Reagan in 1993, Military Family Month recognizes the dedication and service of military personnel and their families. On Oct. 30, 2009, President Barack Obama continued this important initiative by proclaiming November as Military Family Month, calling on "all Americans to honor military families through private actions and public service for the tremendous contributions they make in the support of our service members and our Nation."

Military personnel and their families can stop by [their local Y](#) and show their military ID in order to qualify for the waived join fee and \$10 gift certificate, which is good until the end of February.

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About the Tampa Y

The Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA is one of the area's leading nonprofits, strengthening Hillsborough and East Pasco communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the Association, 19 facilities engage more than 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

About the ASYMCA

The non-profit Armed Services YMCA is a proud partner organization of the YMCA. The top-rated Armed Services YMCA of the USA makes military life easier by providing social services for young enlisted military and their families- helping nearly 500,000 with the help of 18,000 volunteers nationwide each year. The ASYMCA impacts Military Families with fun events, youth development, healthy living and assistance programs for service members, their families and wounded, injured, and ill. Rather than fitness facilities with traditional dues or membership, the Armed Services YMCA offers programs to active duty and their families at no or low cost. The National Armed Services YMCA Headquarters in Springfield, VA hosts 150 Armed Services YMCA program sites

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nationwide. There is no charge for dues or membership and the organization is a privately funded charity that does not receive any government funding. We share the same core values of the YMCA of Caring, Respect, Honesty and Responsibility and we focus our efforts toward young enlisted military personnel and their families- those on the frontlines that need it most. If they carry an active ID card, they are considered members of the Armed Services YMCA. Please visit www.asymca.org to learn how the YMCA actively partners with the ASYMCA through the YMCA Department of Defense Initiative and other no-cost programs.