

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Corissa Ozekin and I am the Lead Program Coordinator for the Wyoming National Guard Child and Youth Program. Our mission is to support the social, emotional, and academic needs of children who have a parent or close family member in the National Guard. We also have a mission to provide outreach to schools across Wyoming to let school personnel know about the services and resources we provide to these children.

In your school district, you may have children who are impacted by their parent or family member's service in the National Guard. National Guard and Reserve families often live far from military bases and associated support systems. You are a significant and valuable resource in the lives of these students.

Deployment can cause significant and prolonged stress because it results in changes in family structure and is beyond the child's control. Prolonged stress alters brain chemistry and function, resulting in problems with concentration, memory, behavior, and control of emotions.

The well-being of our family members is a vital part of the mission of Wyoming Military Family Programs. We are here to support, educate, and encourage family members of the Wyoming National Guard.

Information for our educators is available through Family Programs, Child & Youth Program website: <u>http://wyomilitary.wyo.gov/support-services/family-programs</u> or by visiting the National Guard Joint Services Support website at <u>www.jointservicessupport.org</u> and register as a community member.

Our team is available to give presentations, briefings, resources, support and information at any time during the year. If your school is interested, please feel free and contact me at 307-772-5018 or by email: <u>corissa.c.ozekin.ctr@mail.mil</u>.

Thank you in advance for your support and attention you give to our military children.

Sincerely,

Corissa Ozekin Wyoming National Guard Lead Child & Youth Program Coordinator