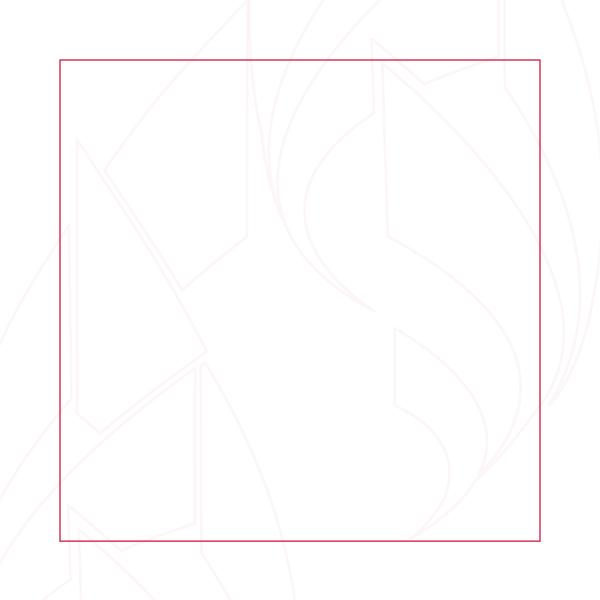


## **Together We're Stronger®**







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Military families serve too. While they don't wear a uniform, they carry the weight of our nation through tremendous stress and uncertainty, and they do it with pride. After 36 years serving our country in the Navy, it's my privilege to now serve families at NMFA alongside a team laser-focused on military family well-being and prosperity.

- Vice Admiral (Ret.) Raquel Cruz Bono, MD, MBA, FACS



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Families make their most important decisions at the kitchen table, and that's where our Association was born. In 1969, a group of military spouses sat together and made a plan to march door-to-door in Congress, calling for changes to policies that made military life harder. Whether it's an upcoming deployment, the next move to a new community or getting the healthcare they need, military families can rest assured we are by their side. Together, we're stronger.

- Besa Pinchotti, NMFA CEO



# **Our Mission:** We work with families to identify and solve the unique challenges of military life. **Our Vision:** Create a world in which military families are thriving.

## Together Our **Community** Is Stronger



Every year, thousands of families tell NMFA how military-mandated moves, trainings, and deployments affect their family's financial security, physical health, emotional wellbeing, and connection. Military teens and young adults participating in our annual Military Teen Experience Survey share what it's like to change schools every 2-3 years, make new friends, support their families through the unique challenges of military life, and consider their own future service. Their stories help us understand what military families are experiencing today so we can build policy solutions and programmatic support to improve their military lives.

## The State of The Military Family





- **9.7M+** post-9/11 military family members supported by NMFA's advocacy, programs, and research
- **2.5M+** current military family members
- **900K+** current military spouses
- **1.6M+** current military kids
- **2.3M+** military-connected kids growing up in a home with a disabled veteran
- **11K+** military families NMFA works with every year through research and programming
- **2K+** military teens participate in our annual Military Teen Experience Survey



More than three in 10 military teens report low mental well-being



More than four in 10 military spouses do not get the mental health care they need



#### Three in 10

scholarship applicants demonstrate very-low to mediumlow financial security as defined by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau



**One in four** military families experience food insecurity



**One in five** military spouses are unemployed



## Together Our **Voices** Are Stronger

The National Military Family Association began in 1969 when a group of military spouses, determined to do better by military families like their own, went door-to-door in Congress calling for policy changes our community still benefits from today. More than five decades later, we carry that legacy forward as trusted advocates on the Hill, at the Pentagon, and in military communities around the world. We power our advocacy with the voices of thousands of military families who share their experiences with us every year through our signature programs and research.

Together, we've achieved key victories that strengthen our community and support our families, including:

1976

First Issues Workshop held by Association to educate military families on their benefits 1989

The Military Child Care Act is passed as a result of NMFA's advocacy efforts 2001

Association advocates for health care; results in Congress creating the Extended Care Health Option

1982

Association's first comprehensive survey leads to the creation of DoD Office of Family Policy 1992

NMFA releases innovative health care plan for military families, with many recommendations later incorporated into TRICARE

## Together Our **Families** Are Stronger

Policy solutions take time—and that's where NMFA's programs come in. Through NMFA's Operation Purple® Program, we offer camps and retreats for military kids and their families at locations across the country and virtually for families around the world. Through Operation Purple®, military kids cultivate self-confidence, independence, and community. They strengthen their resiliency for whatever military life holds. Through our Military Spouse Scholarship, NMFA supports military spouses in their academic and professional pursuits, strengthening military family financial security. We cover educational costs, professional licensure and recertification expenses, and even funding for start-up businesses.

#### 2011

RAND releases the first research on the well-being of military spouse and children, commissioned by NMFA

#### 2022

Military Spouse Scholarship Program hits \$8.2M in awards to military spouse recipients since its inception in 2004

#### 2004

Operation Purple® Camp for children of deployed service members begins

#### 2020

NMFA administers \$1.5M in child care fee relief stipends to dual-working families affected by the pandemic

## Together Our **Knowledge** Is Stronger

NMFA powers its programs and advocacy with nationally-recognized research and insights. Talking to over 11,000 military families every year, including over 2,000 military-connected teens, NMFA researchers blend qualitative and quantitative data collection with human centered design. This process ensures that NMFA understands both the broad trends in our community as well as what those experiences look like inside our families, enabling us to build solutions with families that recognize their key challenges and provide the support most needed.

NMFA's signature Military Teen Experience Survey is fielded annually and explores the overall experience of our military-connected adolescents. The survey covers mental health, food security, future career plans, and propensity to serve in the uniformed services while examining the importance of peer connections, sports and extracurriculars in military-connected teens' lives.

### Together We **Reach** More People

**\$9.2M** Awarded to military spouses advancing their careers through our Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarship

**\$5.8M** Given to families through our Child Care Fee Relief program

**69K** Military kids have attended Operation Purple® camps around the globe

**6K** Military kids around the world have participated in our virtual Operation Purple® Summer Challenge

**3K** Military family members served at Operation Purple® camps and retreats

**336M** Annual media impressions

**2.3M** Military family members reached across social platforms

**1M** Yearly webpage views

**165K** Email subscribers

## Together Our **Future** is Stronger

NMFA offers unique teen programming through Bloom: Empowering the Military Teen. A program of NMFA, Bloom is led by military teens for military teens and connects them worldwide to support each other, share their stories, and elevate their voices. In our annual Military Teen Experience Survey, teens have consistently told us that military life can be hard—but it's also good. Bloom makes it even better, empowering our military teens of today to be our civic, community, and military leaders of tomorrow.



## **Quick Links**



MilitaryFamily.org



Military Family Resources



Operation Purple® Programs



Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarship Program



Support Our Mission



Stay Informed



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