

2010 Department of the Army AFAP Conference Results

Wounded Warrior - Caregiver - Survivor Issues:

- Monthly Stipend to Ill or Injured Soldiers for Non-Medical Caregivers
- Funding Service Dogs for Wounded Warriors
- Extended Transitional Survivor Spouses' TRICARE Medical Coverage

Medical or Behavioral Health Issues:

- Behavioral Health Services Shortages
- Active Duty Family Members Prescription Cost Share
- TRICARE Allowable Charge Reimbursement of Upgrade/Deluxe Durable Medical Equipment

Family Issues:

- Family Readiness Group External Fundraising Restrictions
- Availability of 24/7 Child Care with Child, Youth and School Services Delivery Systems
- Standardization of Privatized Housing Application Process

Soldier Issues:

- Standard Level of Security Measures in Barracks

Reserve Component (RC) Issues:

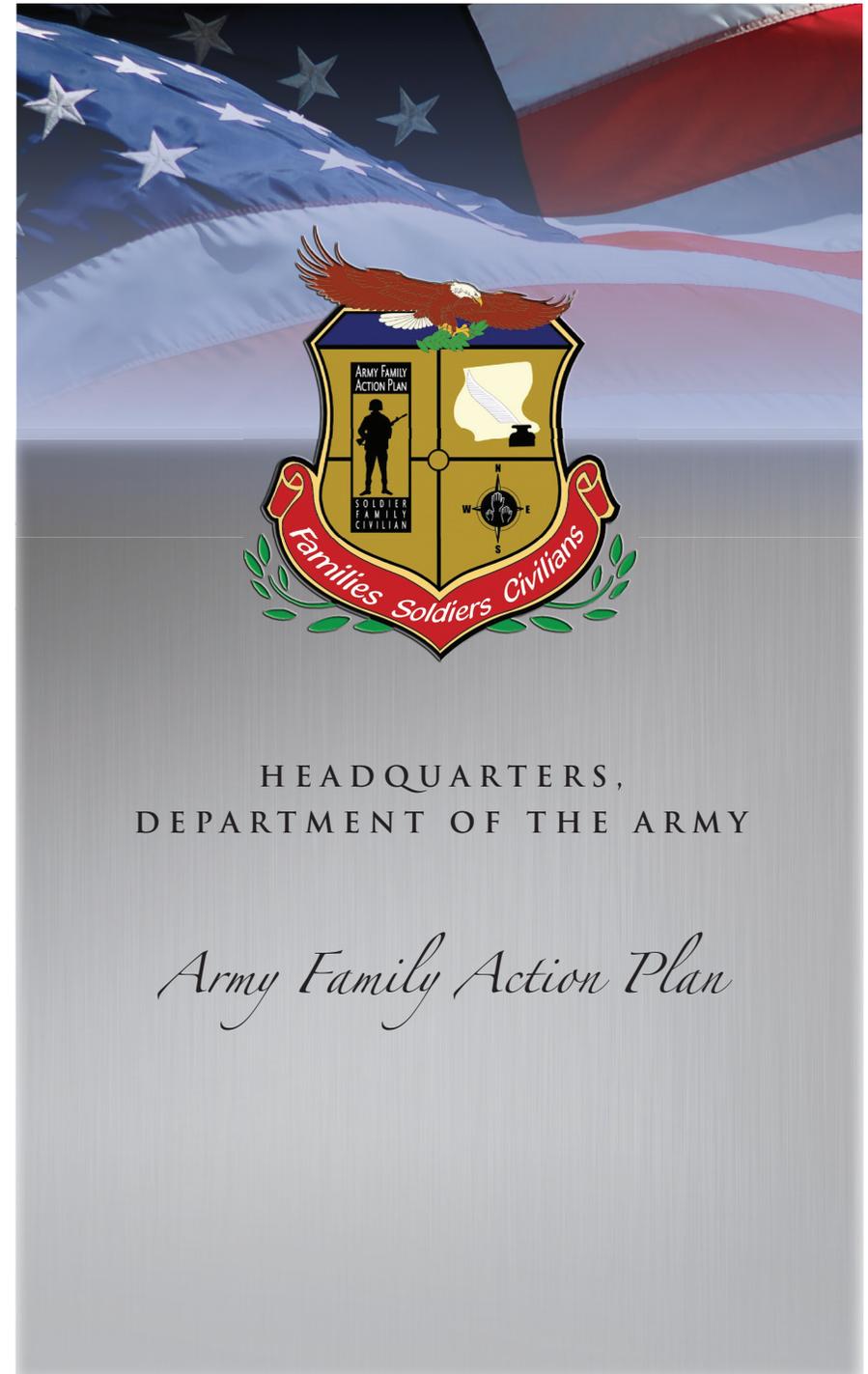
- Exceptional Family Member Program Enrollment Eligibility for RC Soldiers
- Reduced Retirement Age for RC Soldiers Mobilized in Support of Overseas Contingency Operations
- RC Government Employee and Family Members' Access to TRICARE Reserve Select
- RC Inactive Duty for Training Travel and Transportation Allowances
- Supplemental Mission Funds for RC Family Readiness Groups

Civilian Employee Issues:

- Compensatory Time for Department of Army Civilians



ARMY FAMILY COVENANT:
Keeping the Promise





What is the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)?

AFAP is an Army-wide program to improve Army quality of life. Through AFAP, all members of the Army, including Active, Reserve, and National Guard Soldiers, Family members, retirees, surviving spouses, and Department of the Army Civilians have a forum to voice concerns to Army leadership and make recommendations for change.

How it Works

Installations and local levels hold annual AFAP Conferences where representatives of the entire community meet to identify, develop, and prioritize issues they believe are important to maintain a good standard of living. About 90% of AFAP issues are retained and worked at a local level, resulting in ongoing community improvements. Some issues are applicable beyond the local level. These are sent to mid-level conferences. Issues beyond the scope of the mid-level, requiring a higher level of authority, are forwarded to the HQDA AFAP conference. The goals of the conference are to provide information on the implementation of AFAP issues and identify and prioritize for the Army leadership those Soldier and Family issues that reflect the Army needs. Feedback from the HQDA AFAP Conference and issues already in the Plan are provided in the AFAP post-conference brochure, the GOSC Summary, and the HQDA AFAP Issue Update Books. These publications are distributed Army-wide and are available on the website www.myarmyonesource.com.

AFAP History & Success

AFAP provides the Army community a “voice” in shaping their standards of living and identifying issues related to the current environment.

Proven Results:

- 667 issues: 86 active; 458 completed; 120 unattainable; 3 combined
- 90% of AFAP issues are worked at local level
- 61% of the active HQDA AFAP issues impact all Services
- 117 legislative changes; 162 Department of Defense or Department of the Army policy changes; 178 improved programs or services
- Leaders trust/support AFAP — provides real-time information that enables commanders to respond more rapidly to resolve problems, implement good ideas and guides policy formation

AFAP Timeline

- 2009 • Distribution of Montgomery GI Bill benefits (MGIB) to Dependents
 - Noncompetitive appointment authority for spouses of active duty, disabled service members and unmarried widow/widower of a service member killed on active duty
 - Tax credit for employers who pay a salary differential to mobilized reservists
 - Mandates states charge no more than in-state tuition rates for military personnel and their dependents
- 2008 • Increased military annual leave carryover (from 60 to 75 days)
 - Expanded Exceptional Family Member Program Respite Care
- 2007 • Toll-free Wounded in Action phone number; improved communication to Families
 - Funded Family Readiness Support Assistants (FRSAs) to battalion level
- 2006 • Extended educational benefits for surviving spouses.
 - Authorized dental and vision insurance coverage for federal employees.
- 2005 • Lodging and subsistence for Family Members of hospitalized service members
 - Phase-in of full 55% SBP benefit for surviving spouses
- 2004 • Reformed military pay table (targeted pay raises)
- 2003 • Established School Liaison Officers
- 2002 • TRICARE for Life for Medicare eligible retirees
 - Established Military Thrift Savings Plan
- 2001 • Funded student travel (OCONUS) extended to age 23
- 1998 • Authorized dental insurance plan for Retirees and selected reservists
- 1997 • Developed first policy for the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) Program
- 1996 • Guaranteed Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Retirees
- 1992 • Reserve Component retirement orientation program
- 1991 • SGLI increase
 - Authorized Reserve Component Family Member ID card
- 1985 • Established Installation Volunteer Coordinators
- 1984 • Established minimum standards for Army child care
- 1983 • Hosted first Army-wide AFAP conference