

BOSS



Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

Quality of Life • Recreation • Community • Service





WHAT IS BOSS?

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) is a program that supports the overall quality of life for single Soldiers. It encourages and assists Soldiers to identify and influence well-being issues and concerns that can directly or indirectly enhance their morale, living environment, or personal growth/development, and provide recommended improvements through the chain of command. The BOSS program also provides single Soldiers the opportunities to identify and plan recreational and leisure activities and it gives single Soldiers the opportunity to participate in and contribute to their respective communities. The core components, or Three Pillars, of the program are: Recreation and Leisure, Community Service and Well-being.

WHO PARTICIPATES IN BOSS?

The BOSS program is a single Soldier driven program, therefore, the BOSS program is targeted at you, the single Soldier. This also includes single parents and unaccompanied service members. Although the intent of the BOSS program is to provide recreational and leisure activities for single Soldiers, events are typically open to all authorized MWR patrons. Single Soldiers from all units at the installation have the opportunity to be on the local BOSS planning committee, become unit representatives, or volunteers to assist in planning of events or attend activities.



HOW DOES BOSS WORK &

WHAT IS THE SINGLE SOLDIER'S ROLE IN BOSS? Installations organize a formal BOSS program which includes a committee of single Soldier representatives derived from all units on that installation. Through meetings and feedback from their peers, the committee members and BOSS volunteers organize events and activities in accordance with the Three Pillars of BOSS. Typically, the installation Command Sergeant Major serves as the senior military advisor to the council. An installation FMWR advisor is appointed to provide guidance in the planning of activities, financial accountability and marketing. Motivated single Soldiers, along with strong senior military and FMWR guidance, are the backbone of the BOSS program.

ISSUES RAISED BY BOSS Single Soldiers are encouraged to identify both local and Army-wide well-being issues and concerns that affect their quality of life. These issues are addressed during BOSS meetings to assess the issue and recommended improvements. The issues are then submitted to the senior military advisor for resolution through the proper command channels or local staff agencies. Issues that cannot be resolved at the installation level will be submitted to the installation Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) forum. If adopted by the local AFAP delegates, and approved by the commander, the issue is then forwarded to the U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) AFAP forum. The next step, if adopted, is the major Army command (Region) AFAP forum, continuing to the HQDA AFAP Conference where it can change laws, DoD and Army policies, and improve overall well-being programs and services.

The Three Pillars

Recreation

Recreation and leisure activities may be planned solely by the BOSS committee or in conjunction with other FMWR activities. Soldiers assume the primary role in planning BOSS events. Events planned by these committees should meet the needs and desires of single Soldiers on the installation. BOSS committees have sponsored events such as single Soldier talent shows, concerts, dances, and trips. BOSS may also coordinate with the installation commercial sponsorship personnel when planning major events.

Community Service

BOSS committees often elect to participate in community programs or projects, which make a difference in the lives of others, the community, and ultimately, themselves. BOSS members have volunteered to take part in Special Olympics and school mentoring. Some committees have developed their own programs which include sending packages to deployed Soldiers and BOSS Against Drunk Drivers (BADD). This pillar is voluntary in nature and must be in accordance with the installation volunteer program.

Quality of Life

Well-being deals primarily with those things single service members can directly or indirectly influence to enhance their morale, living environment, or personal growth and development. Some of the issues addressed by the BOSS committees include dining facilities, barracks, education, fitness, and Army Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES). Soldiers well-being issues raised during BOSS meetings are resolved at the lowest level possible. Tougher issues may and have reached four-star level for resolution.

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