



years

2008-2018



FISCAL YEAR 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR | 2 |
| OVERVIEW: ABOUT THE YELLOW RIBBON REINTEGRATION PROGRAM | 3 |
| PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | 5 |
| EVENTPLUS | 5 |
| BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON | 5 |
| RESERVE FAMILY READINESS AWARD | 7 |
| PROJECT Y.E.S! | 10 |
| CADRE OF SPEAKERS | 11 |
| EVENT PLANNER TRAINING | 11 |
| IMPACT | 12 |
| POST-EVENT SURVEY RESULTS AND UPDATE | 12 |
| LOGITUDINAL STUDY UPDATE | 13 |
| SERVICE UPDATES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS | 14 |
| WAY AHEAD | 20 |
| YRRP BY THE NUMBERS | 21 |
| FY 2018 YRRP EVENTS | 22 |

10 Years Later

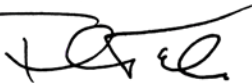
A decade ago, the U.S. Military marked seven years of continuous fighting in the Middle East. Scores of Service members had already deployed multiple times, and the pressures of deployment had taken a toll on many — physically, psychologically, emotionally. That year, 2008, the U.S. Congress stepped up to help, approving a new program specifically for National Guard and Reserve members: the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP).

Since its creation, YRRP has continually evolved to address the changing needs of a dynamic and diverse military community. YRRP's pre-, during, and post-deployment events have supported more than 1.8 million Service members and their families.

This year marked YRRP's 10th anniversary, and Congress reaffirmed their support of our program by entering a proclamation into the Congressional Record. Led by Senator Amy Klobuchar, the proclamation recognized YRRP's achievements and its enduring mission to support the National Guard and Reserve community as they engage in combat support operations and humanitarian missions here and abroad.

As we look to the future, YRRP will continue to refine its resources and event delivery to meet the needs of our Service members and their families wherever they are.

Very Respectfully,



Peter W. Toelle
Executive Director, YRRP



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 established the Department of Defense Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program to assist National Guard and Reserve servicemembers as they transition between their civilian and military roles and back again. The program ensures the readiness of Reserve Component members, their families, and communities before, during, and after deployment.

National Guard and Reserve servicemembers are the backbone of our Nation's military, comprising nearly half of our total force. We have relied on them to support combat missions abroad, and we will continue to rely on them. Nearly 1 million guardsmen and reservists have deployed since September 11, 2001, with nearly 35,000 currently mobilized.

Not only do National Guard and Reserve servicemembers support combat operations, security, and humanitarian missions around the world, they also ensure our safety when unforeseen disasters and emergencies occur. Just this past year, Reserve Component members have responded to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, providing relief and

emergency services to hundreds of thousands of Americans. Through their compassion, professionalism, and courage, they protect our way of life, not just abroad, but also here at home.

In establishing the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, Congress recognized that National Guard and Reserve servicemembers face challenges throughout the deployment cycle that are uniquely different than those confronting their Active-Duty counterparts. Most notably, Reserve Component members often live far from military installations and other members of their units, decreasing their opportunities for support during each stage of deployment.

The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program bridges this gap by connecting National Guard and Reserve servicemembers and their families with resources where they live and provides a support network to aide their unique challenges. Through the program, Reserve Component members and their families gain access to relevant information and resources, including family and marriage counseling, financial planning and education, small business planning, legal benefits, healthcare information, employment training opportunities, and veterans benefits education.

I had the distinct pleasure of working with Congressman John Kline and Senators Norm Coleman, Saxby Chambliss, and JOHNNY ISAKSON in introducing the legislation that created the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program in 2008. I am pleased to say the Minnesota National Guard's program, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, sought to improve how Minnesota's servicemembers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan experienced reintegration and became the model for the national program we are recognizing today.

Since its launch, the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program's pre, during, and post deployment events have supported more than 1.5 million servicemembers and their families. These 10 years have demonstrated the necessity of the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program's mission in maintaining the readiness of National Guard and Reserve servicemembers, their families, and their communities.

I am sure the entire Senate will join with me in congratulating the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program on the successes that have brought it to its 10th anniversary and supporting its continued success moving forward.

Overview

YRRP is a joint-Service effort led by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs and administered by the Defense Personnel and Family Support Center's Office for Reintegration Programs (ORP). In 2008, Congress directed the Secretary of Defense to establish YRRP in Section 582 of Public Law 110-181 in direct response to the Nation's recognition of the unique challenges facing the Reserve Component (RC) community. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, RCs conducted approximately 887 YRRP events, directly affecting 121,553 Service

members and their families. YRRP has supported more than 1.8 million Service members and families since the program's inception in 2008. YRRP's continued dedication to sharing and evaluating resources, tools, and best practices, in coordination with each of the seven RCs, has led to a combined event satisfaction of nearly 80% in FY 2018 (see Figure 1). YRRP initiatives continue to be developed and implemented through coordination with each of the RCs as they support RC members and their loved ones throughout and beyond the deployment cycle.

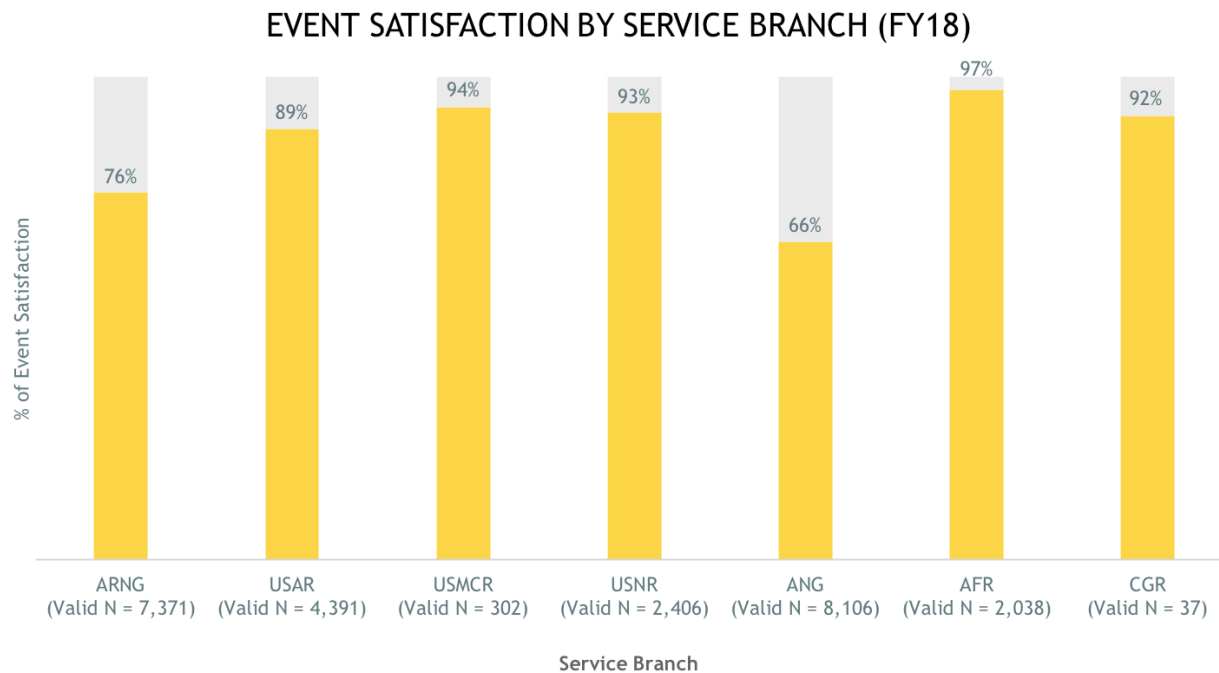


Figure 1: FY 2018 YRRP Event Satisfaction

WELCOME HOME
DADDY!

We've waited 325
to see our DAYS
DADDY!

Family members hold signs to welcome home Soldiers from the 443rd Military Police Company, of Owings Mills, Maryland. The Soldiers had deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for approximately 10 months. (U.S. Army Reserve photo by Master Sgt. Michel Sauret)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

As emerging technologies continue to change the way people live, learn, and work, YRRP remains focused on improving program tools to enhance its offerings and capabilities. From online registration and automated agenda creation to live-polling and automated reports, YRRP is leveraging new and innovative solutions to increase efficiency for attendees and YRRP staff.

EventPLUS

Throughout FY 2018, YRRP worked hand-in-hand with the RCs to develop new tools supporting EventPLUS, YRRP's online event management, tracking, automation and reporting platform. Some of the key EventPLUS updates include:

- **Topics of Interest Tool:** A dynamic tool for event registrants to communicate their interests prior to attending an event, this helps RCs tailor and offer a true, customer-focused event.
- **Registration Trends Analysis:** A registration trend report was implemented for the RCs to help identify and quickly react to registration spikes, ultimately driving informed decision-making to support event planning and execution tasks.
- **Non-Facilitated SMS Live-Polling:** SMS Polling is an interactive tool that uses text messaging technology to gauge the audience's knowledge of key topics. In FY 2018, this capability was enhanced to provide an automated, self-run capability to administer the poll prior to the event without a facilitator, saving valuable time and allowing the RCs to focus their energies on more direct time with Service members and their families.
- **Paperless Event Agenda:** The Agenda Builder tool provides YRRP

staff with the ability to publish and print a standardized event agenda booklet for participants, tailored specifically for each event and RC. In FY 2018, this capability was enhanced to provide an online, mobile-friendly version of the printed agenda, for anytime, anywhere access by RC members and their guests before or during an event.

- **Data Integration Pilot Project:** The YRRP team began the planning and design of a software-based data integration effort aimed at reducing unnecessary data duplication to bring previously disparate information silos together and enabling data-driven approaches to program analysis and reporting.

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon (BYR) supports programs that are intended to provide critical outreach and reintegration services to RC members and their families. BYR funding is provided through a year-to-year appropriation approved by Congress. BYR is essential for building and maintaining a myriad of locally-based programs that build sustainable community support networks and connect and coordinate organizations, agencies, and companies to provide resources and support to RC Service members and their families.

In FY 2018, these programs supported RC members returning from deployment through a variety of much-needed services, such as employment counseling, behavioral health counseling, and suicide prevention. These services were developed and implemented across 16 states, including California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, and Washington.



Juan Rivera, Primal Platoon founder and CEO, speaks to Airmen from the 104th Fighter Wing during a Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Post 1 Deployment Event on Jan. 12, 2018 in Springfield, Massachusetts. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Randy Burlingame)



U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers and family members choose a table spokesperson during a group discussion at the 88th Readiness Division Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Pre-deployment event in Minneapolis, Minnesota on Jun. 16, 2018. (U.S. Army Reserve photo by Catherine Carroll)

Reserve Family Readiness Award

The Community Outreach (CO) team supported continual YRRP enhancements in FY 2018, coordinating with the YRRP Center for Excellence, Joint Working Group, program managers, event planners, and others to identify and promote outreach opportunities, lessons learned, and best practices. Significant accomplishments include contributing to the review and development of several classroom and online courses and strengthening relationships with key providers of information and resources of value to RC members and their families. As one example, CO coordinated with Military Community & Family Policy to establish a “Guard and Reserve” link in the Military Life Cycle section of Military OneSource, providing RC members and their families more direct access to RC-specific information and resources.

FY 2018 also saw the completion of the Council on Accreditation contract. This three-year effort facilitated the national accreditation or self-certification of family program service providers across the country. At contract end, 67 family programs spread across 674 locations had been awarded accreditation from a nationally certified, third-party accrediting body.

Additionally, CO planned and conducted the 18th Annual Reserve Family Readiness Awards Program and Ceremony in March, 2018. This Pentagon Hall of Heroes ceremony, which was hosted by then Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Robert Wilkie, with participation by the Military Officer’s Association of America (MOAA), promotes family readiness as an essential element of unit mission readiness. The annual ceremony recognized the most exceptional Family Support Program in each of the RCs, and was attended by senior leaders and representatives from each of the recipient units.

Congratulations to the FY 2017 Reserve Family Readiness Award Recipients:

Army National Guard

Charlie Company, 189th Aviation
Rapid City, SD
Unit Commander: MAJ Anthony Timanus

U.S. Army Reserve

Headquarters and Headquarters Company
807th Medical Command (Deployment Support)
Fort Douglas, Salt Lake City, UT
Unit Commander: MAJ Candace Gordon

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve

Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 48
Marine Air Control Group 48
4th Marine Aircraft Wing
Great Lakes, IL
Unit Commander: LtCol David Fennell

U.S. Navy Reserve

Navy Operational Support Center Detroit
Detroit, MI
Unit Commander: LCDR Thomas Stallworth

Air National Guard

146th Force Support Squadron
146th Airlift Wing
Port Hueneme, CA
Unit Commander: Lt Col Joe Wildman

U.S. Air Force Reserve

446th Airlift Wing
Joint Base Lewis McChord, WA
Unit Commander: Col Anthony Angello

U.S. Coast Guard Reserve

Port Security Unit 311
San Pedro, CA
Unit Commander: CDR Laila Grassley

HALL OF HEROES



The Honorable Robert Wilkie speaks to a gathering of Service members from each military branch about the importance of family readiness at the 2017 Department of Defense Family Readiness Award ceremony, at the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes, Arlington, Virginia on Mar. 23, 2018. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Dallas Johnson)



A group of North Dakota National Guard children attempt to build a tower made out of marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti during a teambuilding exercise with facilitators from Project Youth Extension Service on Mar. 8 at the North Dakota National Guard Youth Symposium in Fargo, North Dakota. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Brett Miller, Joint Force Headquarters)

Project Y.E.S!

Project Youth Extension Service (YES) is a national program engaging college students in service to meet the needs of military families facing deployment. Specifically, Project YES expands the youth resources of YRRP and provides opportunities for students to give back to their communities and country through a year of service while receiving academic credit. Students who become Project YES staff interns receive first-class youth development education and facilitation skills, as well as gain valuable experience in program management. With these skills, interns travel the nation delivering specialized youth development programs to children and youth of deployed family members. To date, Project YES has produced 147 interns who have served more than 24,857 youth in 49 states, 4 U.S. territories, and Germany (see Figure 2).

YOUTH EVALUATION (2018)

- Overall Satisfaction
 - Enjoyed YES Activities
- Multi-Faceted Application
 - Can use info in other stages of life
- Satisfaction with YES Staff
 - Facilitation and Interaction

YOUTH SATISFACTION

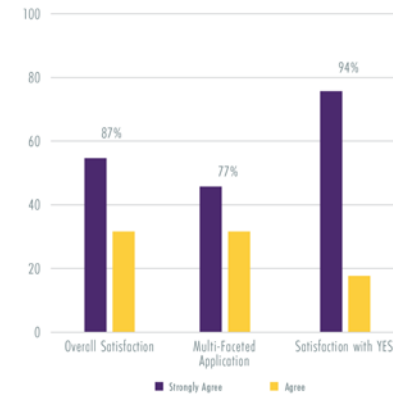


Figure 3: Youth Evaluation/Youth Satisfaction, Project YES.

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE AND ANNUAL EVENTS

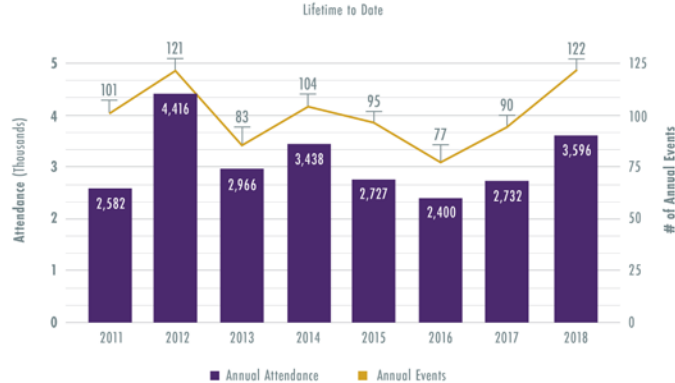


Figure 2: Annual Attendance and Annual Events, Project YES.

INTERN FACILITATION HOURS

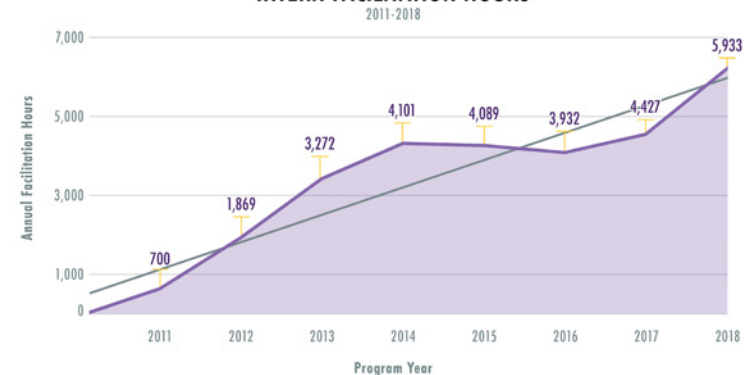


Figure 4: Intern Facilitation Hours, Project YES.

Cadre of Speakers

The Cadre of Speakers (Cadre) is comprised of highly effective and qualified presenters and facilitators who deliver Department of Defense (DoD) curriculum at YRRP events. The Cadre began in FY 2010 in order to assist RC training, event planning, and curriculum requirements. In FY 2018 alone, the Cadre supported 499 YRRP events, impacting an estimated 85,000 RC members and their families.

Members of the Cadre undergo training in presenting DoD-approved curriculum throughout the deployment cycle. Curriculum presentation topics include mental and physical health, finances, social relationships and communication, and employment. The Cadre assist YRRP in reviewing, editing, and developing new curriculum based on attendee feedback, collecting curriculum and break-out session surveys for program enhancement, and participating in Event Planner Training events in order to standardize and improve YRRP program delivery across the RCs.

Event Planner Training

YRRP hosted two Event Planner Training events for more than 200 event planners and program managers from across the RCs. YRRP conducts these annual training events to demonstrate and promote resources and capabilities, share tools and best practices, and encourage standardization of program delivery.

Some of the courses offered at the training events included Developing and Understanding a Needs Assessment, Addressing Crisis in a Unit, Cadre as Consultants, EventPLUS Capabilities, Curriculum Familiarization, Agenda Development, and Understanding Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) requirements.

IMPACT

YRRP continues a collaborative relationship with the Office of People Analytics and the Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness at Penn State (Clearinghouse) to collect and analyze data. YRRP is simultaneously collaborating with the RCs to improve program evaluation techniques, enhance data integration, and address the needs and feedback of RC members and their loved ones.

Post-Event Survey Results & Update

YRRP distributes and collects surveys to capture attendee feedback immediately following pre-, during, and post-deployment events. The data collected from the Post-Event Survey helps to analyze the impact YRRP has on RC members and their families. This data is a critical tool used to continually improve program offerings, curriculum, and available resources.

The measurement of learning gains allows for the examination of whether the information and resources presented at YRRP events are relevant and useful to attendees. More importantly, measuring the learning gains of Service members and their families who attend multiple YRRP events is one way of determining the benefits of the program. As seen in Figure 5, 54% of Service members and families who have attended 5 or more events still reported learning something useful in at least two categories, such as finance, employment, legal, medical, mental health, communication, and Veterans Affairs (VA).

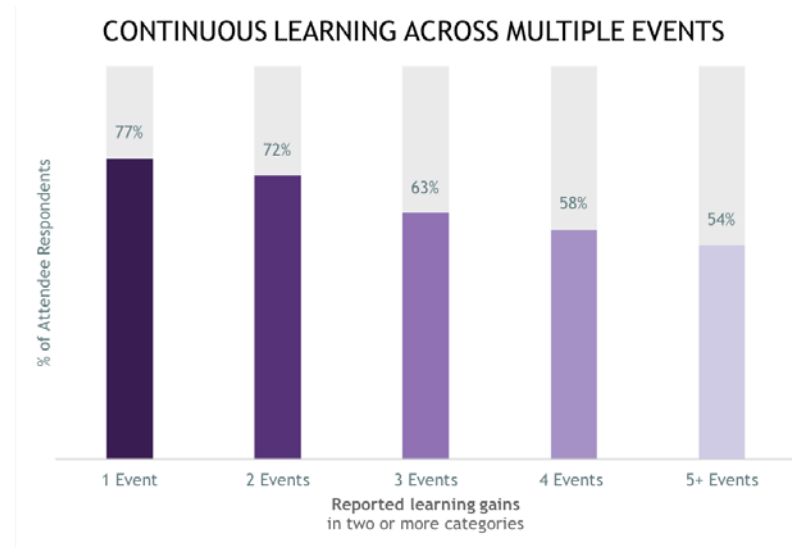
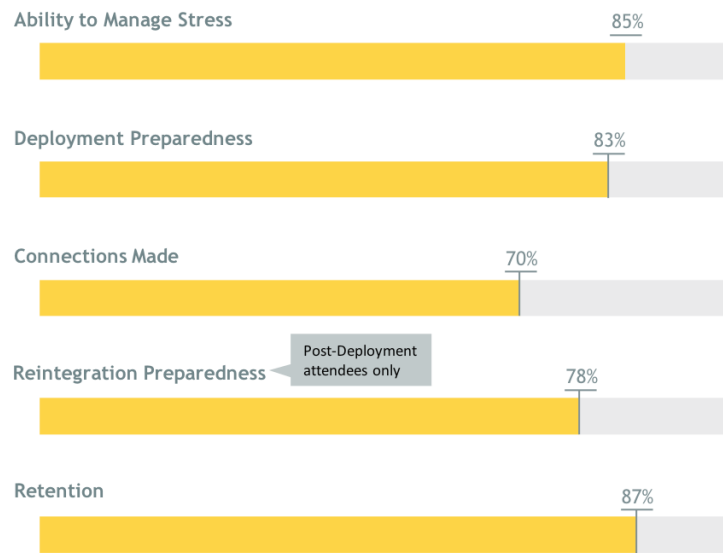


Figure 5: FY 2018 YRRP Reported Learning Gains

Another key feature of the Post-Event Survey is its ability to measure and analyze the benefits RC members and their families report from attending YRRP events (see Figure 6). These outcomes are essential to measuring YRRP’s impact on retention, stress management, networking, communication, and deployment and reintegration preparedness. This information provides an initial assessment of successful efforts and informs program changes to sustain YRRP’s ongoing impact.

REPORTED BENEFITS OF EVENT ATTENDANCE



Percent represented on each bar includes both "Agree" and "Strongly Agree" responses.

Figure 6: FY 2018 Reported Benefits of YRRP Event Attendance

Longitudinal Study

The goal of the United States Navy Reserve (USNR) Individual Augmentee (IA) Longitudinal Study is to assess the welfare of USNR-affiliated IAs and their family members/guests throughout the deployment cycle, specifically in the areas of coping, financial well-being, relationship/communication, resilience, social support, and transitional stress. Reservists’ awareness and utilization of resources are also being measured. Data gathered will inform the YRRP, serving to potentially impact future programmatic decisions. Each participant is given the opportunity to complete a survey at the following four time points throughout the deployment cycle:

- 1) Prior to the Deployment Readiness Training (DRT/Pre-deployment) event;
- 2) Halfway through deployment;
- 3) Six months after the end of deployment; and
- 4) One year after the end of deployment.

The USNR IA Longitudinal Study began in FY 2017 and has successfully continued into FY 2018. The Mid-Atlantic Region volunteered to participate, which keeps data collection at a regional level. Data has been collected from individuals registered to attend the following five DRT events:

- 1) Pittsburgh, PA – April 2017;
- 2) Madison, WI – July 2017;
- 3) Indianapolis, IN – November 2017;
- 4) Chicago, IL – April 2018; and
- 5) Detroit, MI – June 2018.

During FY 2017 and FY 2018, all eligible participants had the opportunity to complete the survey at the first time point. Currently, the second, third, and fourth surveys are being administered to participants based on their individual deployment timeline.

Service Updates

Army National Guard

The Army National Guard (ARNG) has continued to focus on the development and execution of YRRP events held to support RC members's operational commitments and their families who are sustaining the household during deployment. In FY 2018, the ARNG YRRP held 423 events across the United States. Last year, the ARNG introduced a performance metrics initiative to achieve the goal of enforcing and encouraging compliance of standard operating procedures established by YRRP's program manager. With this implementation, the ARNG has observed growth in positive feedback from attendees, as well as an increase of state's compliance in several graded areas. This same feedback is reported to each state so they have the opportunity to track their successes and hone in on sections of their state's Yellow Ribbon program that could use more attention or further development.

Another significant improvement was the procurement of equipment proven to streamline on-site registration of event attendees. A total of \$200,000 was allocated for the states and territories to procure updated digital scanners and wireless printers. With the interest of YRRP event attendees in mind, ARNG has consistently worked with EventPLUS developers to improve the method of registering RC members and their families, as to place an emphasis on refining the user interface to provide a more efficient experience when navigating www.yellowribbon.mil. As always, the ARNG's priority has been meeting the needs of citizen Soldiers and their families.

Army Reserve

The pursuit of the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) to establish an impactful and cost efficient delivery of services to its Soldiers and family members continued in FY 2018. As part of the effort, the USAR YRRP completed a year-long program delivery method update. The delivery method focused on having regional Readiness Divisions (RDs) provide both Phase I and Phase III events.

The four USAR RDs now host Phase I, pre-deployment, and Phase III, post-deployment, events at venues near the units they support. Phase II, during deployment, is now a mailing activity instead of an event. Families receive a 24-page magazine in the mail addressing all the key concepts and resources required by the DoDI. Phase IV, post-deployment, is now a well-being activity in which the RDs call to check on the families 180 to 270 days after release from Active duty.

The USAR YRRP introduced several new features and services to the standardized collection of resources, information, and curricula offered at YRRP events. From FY 2017 through FY 2018, a DEERS/ID Card station became a permanent fixture for all USAR YRRP events. Event attendees can update personal information in the DEERS database and have ID Cards made onsite. The USAR also developed and implemented a Family Member Panel, which is a custom breakout session affording family members and loved ones the opportunity to ask questions and have open dialogue in a townhall-style forum separate from the Service members.

Marine Corps Reserve

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (MCR) continues to succeed due to Commanders' flexibility in conducting YRRP events based on the needs of the unit. YRRP is a tool for Commanders to address the challenges and issues facing Marines, Sailors, and their families. The YRRP works in partnership with other Marine Corps programs. In addition to YRRP events, other innovative methods for program delivery have been designed to meet the individual needs of Service members and families, including webinars and one-on-one personalized briefs through Marine Corps Family Team Building programs.

The MCR YRRP continues to receive positive comments and interest from its Service members and families. The program successfully gathered satisfaction information from Post-Event Surveys, reporting that 83% of attendees would recommend YRRP events to others and 90% felt better prepared for the next phase of deployment. The MCR is committed to program improvement by increasing the use of EventPLUS to track event attendance, increasing implementation consistency of event evaluations to improve data collection and analysis, and increased emphasis on delivering quality YRRP events to improve attendee experience.

Navy Reserve

The U.S. Navy Reserve (USNR) is committed to providing support to its Warriors and their families. In FY 2018, the USNR had an increase in DRT and Returning Warrior Workshop (RWW) events, which supported 4,498 Service members and guests. In addition to supporting 28 DRT and 12 RWW events, 3 unit mobilizations were supported.

The RWWs are voluntary and highly encouraged. Attendees and guests share experiences and their main support sources. DRTs remain mandatory and focused on those who are identified for mobilization. Due to flexible program policy decisions and additional advertising campaigns, DRT and RWW attendance increased by 7%.

The Navy Reserve continues to focus on the overall welfare of Warriors and families throughout the deployment cycle. In FY 2018, surveys were collected from five DRT events during the IA Longitudinal Study conducted by the Clearinghouse. The final phase of the study is expected to conclude in 2020. The study will provide valuable feedback that will help shape future training in the areas of coping, financial well-being, relationships/communication, resilience, social support, and transitional stress.



A Soldier's spouse asks a question about the uncertainty of deployment to a panel of experienced Soldiers and spouses during the Family Panel at the 81st Readiness Division's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program event at the Omni Resort & Hotel at ChampionsGate in Orlando, Florida. The panel offered valuable information and practical advice on what to expect before, during and after a deployment (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Marie Henderson, 204th PAD).



Senior Airman James Doyle and Cadre of Speakers member Erik Engel demonstrate the "coffee and pie" method of connecting with fellow veterans during a YRRP event at the HNA Palisades Premier Conference Center in Palisades, New York on Nov. 5, 2017. Engel encourages veterans to simply invite each other out for a coffee to check up after deployment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Julio A. Olivencia Jr.)



U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers from the 339th Military Police Company (Combat Support), headquartered in Davenport, Iowa, train on route reconnaissance at a Warrior Exercise through the dusty trails of Fort Hunter Liggett, California. The MP company's Soldiers had to relocate their tactical assembly areas in the field multiple times as they reconnoitered different areas of their operational environment, while fighting against temperatures reaching more than 100 degrees daily. (U.S. Army Reserve photo by Master Sgt. Michel Sauret)

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Air Force Reserve

The Air Force Reserve (AFR) held 51 pre-/post-deployment events, educating 2,524 Service members and 3,471 family members or designated representatives, as well as performing more than 20,000 “personal touches” or interactions with family members during their Service member’s deployment.

The AFR is pioneering SMS text message feedback for pre- and post-event learning at YRRP events, as well as providing specific breakout evaluations that are used to tailor event agendas based on the precise needs of attendees. Using the YRRP-constructed questionnaire responses, the AFR YRRP has found that 55% of Service members and their families attending four or more events continue to experience learning gains in two or more educational domains (e.g. communications, finances, VA, TRICARE, etc.). AFR YRRP is currently experiencing a 75% feedback rate of the Post-Event Survey that reveal, among several other data points, that 95% of AFR members and those who support them are more willing to continue their military service because of their attendance at AFR YRRP events.

The AFR YRRP continues to offer agendas that meet the training and reintegration needs of Airmen and their families.

Air National Guard

The Air National Guard (ANG) YRRP met its FY 2018 goals of decreasing redundancy in agendas, offering more breakout options, and updating curriculum for those on Title 10 orders for more than 90 days, which includes contiguous United States deployments outside the local area and those supporting an enduring in-garrison mission, such as Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA), Intelligence, and Cyber personnel.

FY 2018 saw the success of three in-garrison deployment events, including one at the 178 Wing, Springfield, OH, and two at the 188 WG, Fort Smith, AR. The ANG collaborated with the Clearinghouse to test curriculum unique to this mission set, focusing on moral injury, fitness and nutrition, sleep hygiene, stress management, and communication. In-garrison events were added to the YRRP cycle for ANG Service members and have effectively been implemented at other RPA, Intelligence, and Cyber wings. ANG YRRP also improved its internal controls of funding processes to facilitate more accurate expense reporting and enhance the process for requesting and reporting funds on the EventPLUS system used for event planning purposes.

Coast Guard Reserve

The Coast Guard YRRP continued its success during FY 2018, hosting six events supporting nearly 1,000 Coast Guard Reservists and their families. While the Coast Guard is always honored to host members and their dependents from the other Services, nearly all of the Coast Guard YRRP attendees originate from one of the Service's Port Security Units, self-sustaining commands capable of deploying worldwide, typically in support of DoD missions.

One of the highlights of FY 2018 was a concerted effort to leverage the analytical tools offered by EventPLUS. By using the text evaluation feature, the Coast Guard YRRP is able to receive real-time feedback

regarding event programming and accommodations. This assists YRRP staff in correcting issues that arise during an event. Coast Guard YRRP staff members look to expand proficiency in using the EventPLUS tools, such as capitalizing on live-polling to gauge attendee knowledge gains during the events.

A second initiative in FY 2018 was working with the Coast Guard Head of Contracting Authority to streamline the contracting process for YRRP events. Historically, YRRP staff contracted each event separately resulting in multiple solicitations and awards for similar performances over the FY. With this new initiative, the program will seek an award for multiple events for a more efficient process, while providing the deployed unit with more certainty in future YRRP events.

The Coast Guard YRRP enjoyed excellent support from the Cadre throughout all phases of the deployment cycle. Based on survey data, nearly 80% of attendees indicated they were ready for the next phase of deployment and felt better about deployment after attending YRRP events.



Children of deployed Coast Guard Reserve members show off their face painting at a during deployment YRRP event in Anaheim, CA, Nov. 30, 2018. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA1 Emaia Rise/released)

Way Ahead

As we look to the next ten years, including potential mobilization and mission requirements that may emerge, YRRP remains committed to enhancing the lethality and capability of the total force, as well as improving the well-being of RC members and their families as they weather the challenges of deployment.

We are focusing our efforts on transforming our program tools and resources to remain responsive and flexible. We are proud of the work we have done to develop one of the most advanced program evaluation and event management tools, EventPLUS, across the DoD. The capabilities and insight this tool brings to bear for event planners and program managers has allowed for a deeper understanding of YRRP's impact and how we can work to improve program offerings.

Data Integration

YRRP's commitment to improving attendee experience drives data integration and evaluation. With better data integration, respondents will no longer be asked to provide demographic information while completing event surveys. Instead, individuals will be assigned a unique identifier that provides anonymity for the respondents and allows analysts to track data across efforts and events.

This capability may enhance the rigor of program evaluation and allow YRRP to track individuals while maintaining their anonymity through every stage of their deployment. This data may not only improve the YRRP experience by reducing attendee burden, but it may also allow YRRP to better understand program impact and apply program enhancements to increase positive outcomes sought for RC members and their families.

Curriculum Expansion

YRRP conducts annual and systematic reviews of its in-person standardized curriculum to ensure content is consistent with the best available evidence. In addition, YRRP seeks to refine and expand its existing web-based curriculum and learning management system to better align with corresponding in-person equivalents.

Although in-person events remain the most impactful and preferred delivery mechanism for program resources and information, YRRP also recognizes the requirement to support RC members and their families who cannot attend an in-person event. This commitment to ensuring every RC member and their family has the resources and information they need to successfully navigate deployment is driving YRRP's effort to create the most beneficial online experience.

Well-Being Inventory

YRRP's assessments are guided by the Well-being Inventory framework to assist in understanding YRRP's impact on Service members and their families. The WBI is a recently developed multi-dimensional assessment tool that could allow YRRP to identify strengths and vulnerabilities across key aspects of RC member lives.

This measure is being implemented in order to identify how individuals are impacted by YRRP across key life domains, including health, vocation, finances, and social relationships. Analyzing the effects of YRRP across these four life domains may help YRRP improve program impact by allowing the identification and measurement of key outcomes.

YRRP by the Numbers

| | ARNG | USAR | MCR | USNR | ANG | AFR | USCGR | Total |
|---|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Total Number of Attendees | 52,395 | 15,314 | 1,890 | 4,550 | 19,388 | 28,041 | 855 | 122,443 |
| Service Members | 28,078 | 6,867 | 1,212 | 2,712 | 13,822 | 2,524 | 302 | 55,517 |
| Family Members | 21,970 | 6,838 | 586 | 1,533 | 5,492 | 24,636 | 493 | 61,548 |
| Designated Representatives | 2,347 | 1,609 | 92 | 305 | 74 | 881 | 60 | 5,368 |
| Total Number of YRRP Events | 414 | 50 | 44 | 51 | 272 | 51 | 5 | 887 |
| Total Number Activated (as of September 30, 2017) | 16,814 | 9,343 | 1,018 | 3,158 | 3,783 | 2,623 | 170 | 36,909 |
| Projected Events for FY 2019 | 241 | 74 | 6 | 37 | 273 | 48 | 8 | 657 |
| Projected Total Attendees for FY 2019 | 22,346 | 11,802 | 1,800 | 4,250 | 19,427 | 7,500 | 1,200 | 68,325 |

Figure 7: FY 2018 Statistics by Service

FY 2018 YRRP Events

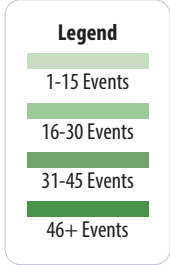
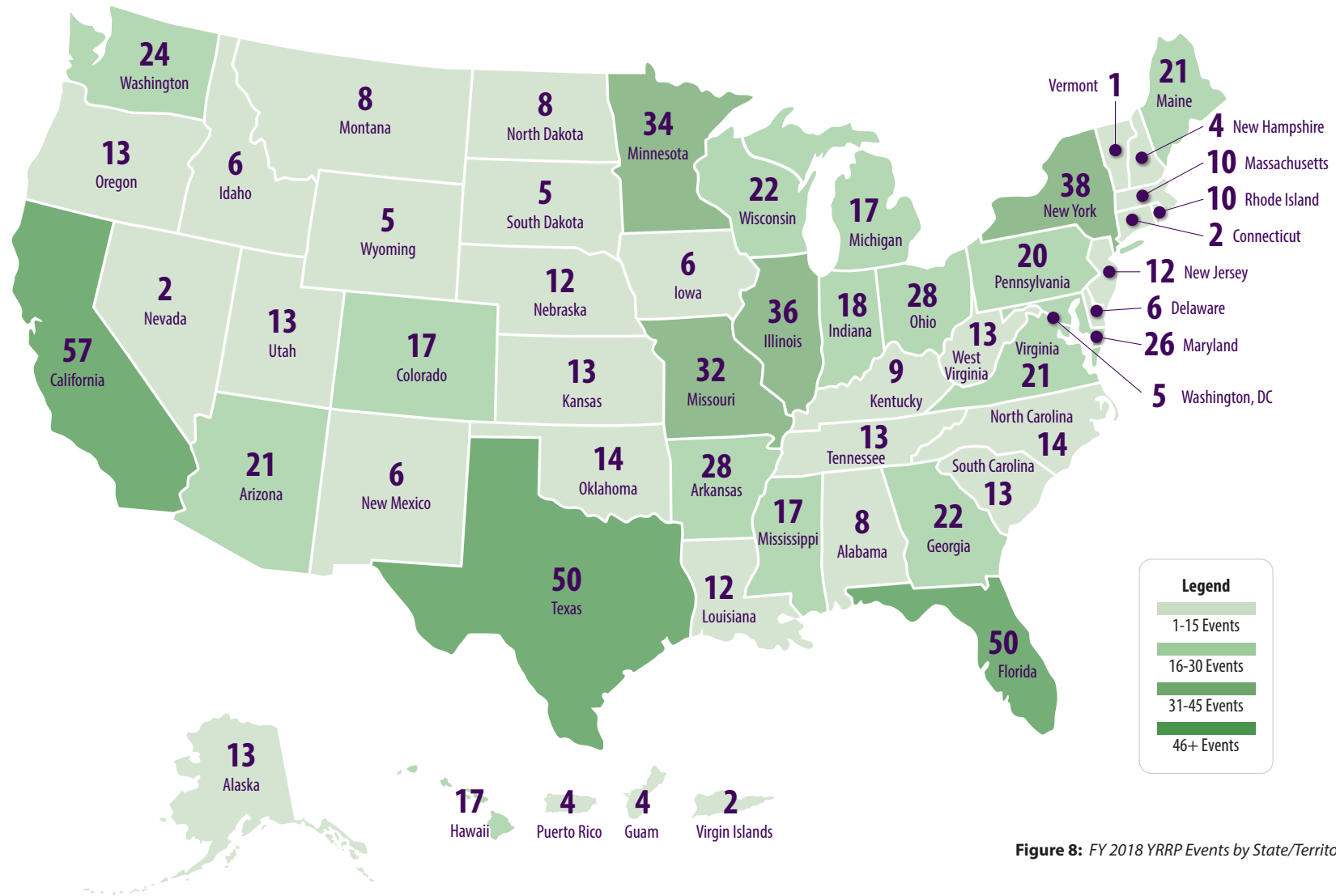


Figure 8: FY 2018 YRRP Events by State/Territory

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Sgt. Brooke Grether, a U.S. Army Reserve military police (MP) Soldier and gunnery crew truck commander with the 603rd MP Company, out of Belton, Missouri, poses for a portrait after finishing a gunnery lane at Fort Riley, Kansas on May 18, 2018. (U.S. Army Reserve photo by Master Sgt. Michel Sauret)