

## Join us for - **Awareness to Action in Kansas 2009** **KS Communities Supporting Military Families and Kids**



In November, organizations across Kansas will involve their members in projects to support military kids and their families. Sponsored by **KS Operation: Military Kids (OMK)**, “**Awareness to Action in Kansas**” kits provide ready-to-use resources that increase awareness of military family challenges, strengths and ways that communities can “lend a hand” during military deployments and return home.

### **What is “Awareness to Action”?**

*Awareness to Action in Kansas*, will resource hundreds of civic and community leaders as they help residents learn and take action to support military kids and their families. Action will be based on the information and recommendations included in the *Awareness to Action* kits. Each 5-module kit includes a PowerPoint presentation along with a variety of easy-to-use press releases, media, activity/event guides, helping tips and community connection plans. Module topics cover:

1. **Military deployment and reunion-related issues**
2. **Positive youth development**
3. **Family resilience**
4. **Community action**
5. **Engaging others to join the cause**



### **Who is involved?**

The KS OMK coordinating team for *Awareness to Action* includes representatives from Kansas 4-H, Army Reserve, Kansas National Guard, Kansas State University, Ft. Riley-Ft. Leavenworth-McConnel AFB School Liaisons, Military Source-JFSAP and the KS American Legion. **We invite you to join our team!**

### **What is my commitment?**

Civic clubs, schools, youth groups, parks/recreation departments, Extension offices and other community organizations can request “*Awareness to Action*” kits during September so they can be put to use throughout **November which is Military Family Month**. Ideally, your organization would use the modules, along with an action plan, to help organize projects during the month. Your organization’s action plan might include presentations to other groups, community work projects designed to help military families, youth mentoring programs and/or a community resource event/festival designed for military families.

After you receive your kit, simply use the contents throughout November. In December, the Kansas OMK Coordinator and/or staff will contact you for information about how the kit helped your organization support military families that live in your community. Sharing your experiences and ideas about the 2009 *Awareness to Action* kits will be valuable as the 2010 *Awareness to Action* kit is designed. So keep notes of how your 2009 *Awareness to Action* project unfolds.

### **Who do I contact to join *Awareness to Action in Kansas 2009*?**

- Ann Domsch, Operation Military Kids, 785-532-2276, [adomsch@ksu.edu](mailto:adomsch@ksu.edu)
- Elaine Johannes, School of Family Studies & Human Services, K-State University, 785-532-7720, [ejohanne@ksu.edu](mailto:ejohanne@ksu.edu)

 AVAILABLE AFTER **SEPTEMBER 22, 2009** at [www.KansasOMK.org](http://www.KansasOMK.org)

