

Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families (SMVF)

Newsletter: April 2026



DEPARTMENT OF
**COMMUNITY &
HUMAN SERVICES**

Honoring Our Youngest Heroes: Month of the Military Child

April is the Month of the Military Child—a time to honor the 1.6 million children of military families who demonstrate incredible resilience and adaptability. Since 1986, this month has highlighted the vital role these young individuals play in supporting our service members.

Join the Celebration:

- **Purple Up! Day:** Wear purple on Wednesday, April 15 to show your support for all branches of the military.
- **Events & Resources:** Check out the listings below for military family events and professional trainings with **FREE CEUs**.

Let's Connect: Are you working with a service member, veteran, or military family? Reach out—we'd love to collaborate!

Upcoming Events:

Celebrating Military Kids: We Signed Up Too One-Year Anniversary Event

Saturday, April 4 | 1-4 p.m. | [More Info](#)

Female Veteran Moral Injury Program (Virtual)

Thursday, April 9 | 1 p.m. | [More Info](#)

Purple Up! Day

Wednesday, April 15

All day!

2026 HIRE VETS NOW - Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Registration

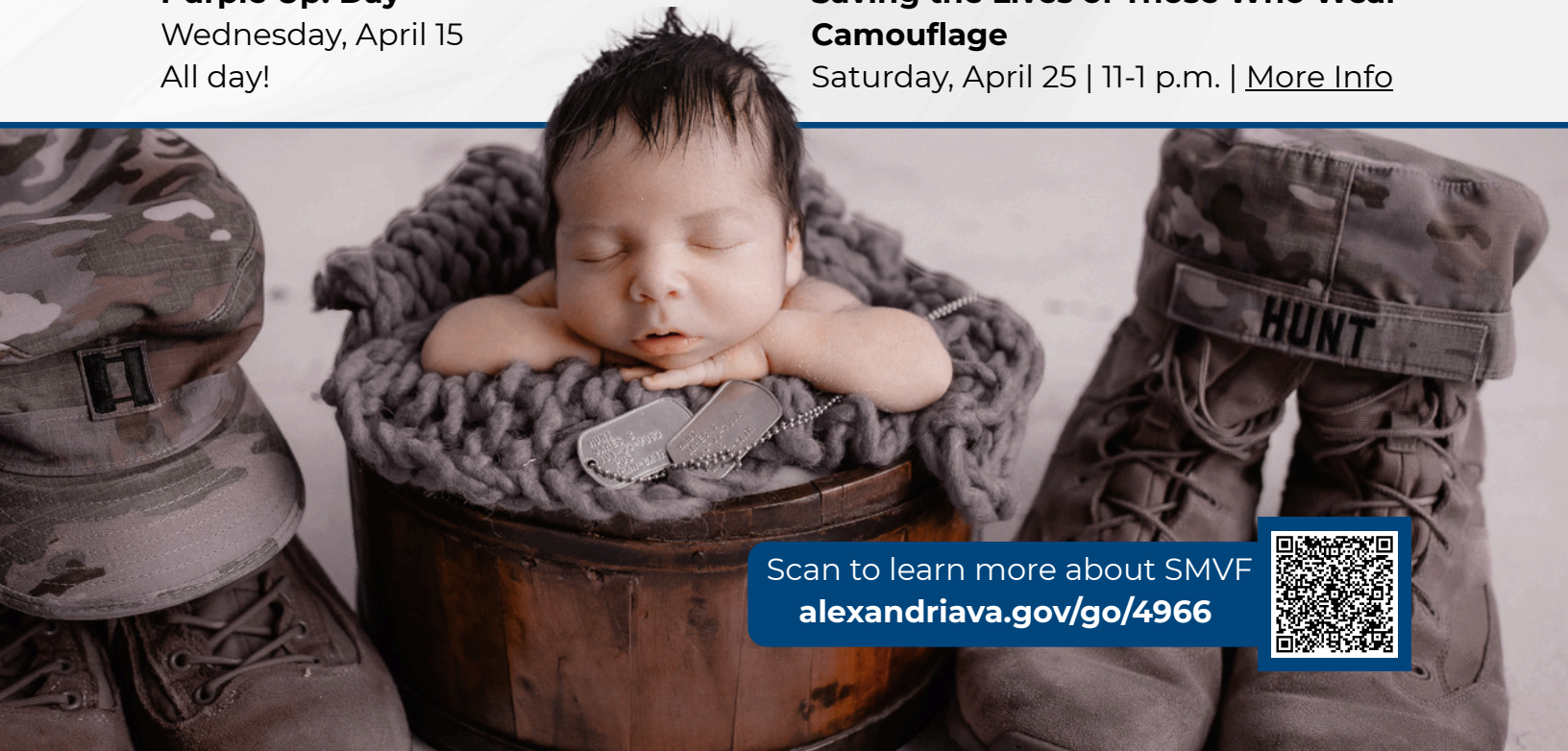
Thursday, April 16 | 11-1 a.m. | [More Info](#)

Military Child World Expo 2026 Celebrating the Torchbearers of America

Saturday, April 25 | 10-6 p.m. | [More Info](#)

Saving the Lives of Those Who Wear Camouflage

Saturday, April 25 | 11-1 p.m. | [More Info](#)



Scan to learn more about SMVF
alexandriava.gov/go/4966



Military Observances

- **Month of the Military Child**- April
- **Gold Star Spouses Day**-April 5
- **National Former Prisoners of War (POW) Recognition Day**- April 9
- **Air Force Reserve Birthday**- April 14
- **Army Reserve Birthday**- April 23

Free SMVF Trainings with CEU Credit

Supporting Hidden Helpers in the Classroom

PsychArmor Training

This course is designed to increase the awareness and knowledge of professionals on the unique needs, strengths, and challenges faced by military caregiving youth.

Register

Women Veterans Series

PsychArmor Training, **.5 CMEs**

This online course is designed to introduce learners to the unique experiences and contributions of women service members and Veterans.

Take Training

Connecting with the VA

PsychArmor Training, **.5 CEUs**

This module is designed for healthcare professionals who treat military service members and military and veteran-connected patients, wishing to work more effectively to promote patient understanding and culturally-informed care.

Take Training

The Basics of Veteran Suicide Prevention

PsychArmor Training, **. 1.5 CEUs**

The Basics of Veteran Suicide Prevention is focused on providing support and resources for military service members, veterans, and their families.

Take Training

To login to PsychArmor, follow this **[link](#)**. Create a username and password, and enjoy free trainings catered to professionals working within the SMVF community.

Month of the Military Child

Supporting Our Military Children

Military life requires incredible bravery from the youngest members of the family. On average, a military child will move 6 to 9 times before graduating high school. This frequent transition contributes to significant hurdles: 32% face bullying, 20% struggle with depression or ADHD, and nearly 45% of military teens have reported self-harm.

This month, we don't just recognize their service—we commit to providing the support and resources they need to thrive.

Wednesday, April 15: “Purple Up! Day”

Why purple? It symbolizes the unity of all military branches coming together:

- **Green:** Army
- **Navy:** Coast Guard
- **Red:** Marine Corps
- **Blue:** Air Force and Space Force

Join us on April 15 by wearing purple to show your support and appreciation for the strength of military children!

Activity:

Here's an image of the world map. Now pinpoint where your family has lived because of the military:

