



“A heartfelt “thank you” to the Town of Chelmsford and the surrounding area. Our friends, co-workers, neighbors, and fellow townspeople went above and beyond all hopes and expectations to make sure we were taken care of [during my spouse’s deployment]. Please know that our time in Chelmsford will hold a warm and truly memorable place in our hearts, reinforce our faith in community, and will make our service to our great country all the more worthwhile.”

*Military Family, Chelmsford, Mass.
A Community Covenant community since 2010*

- Soldiers and their Families continue to face stress associated with 11 years of persistent conflict.
- Many Military Families, especially those transitioning, reintegrating, or not living on or near an installation, often turn to their local communities and organizations for support.
- In 2008, the Army launched the Community Covenant program to foster, strengthen, and sustain effective state and community partnerships with the Army.
- The Community Covenant inspires local communities to support their Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. A tangible outcome with every signing is encouraged, with a preferred outcome being a local, community support network.
- Leaders and volunteers from more than 800 communities hosted signing ceremonies and pledged support to Soldiers and their Families.
- While the Community Covenant is an Army initiative, communities are encouraged to expand the covenant to include Service Members and Families from all military services.



- Local representatives/citizens from government, non-profits, educational institutions, social services, faith-based groups, chambers of commerce, veteran service organizations, public safety professionals and private citizens come together to identify ways to support and assist local Service Members, Veterans, and their Families.
- These representatives/citizens establish a collaborative group/committee/network to coordinate community support efforts.
- The community support network works with local military leadership and/or directly with Military Families to identify needed programs and services and then implements assistance programs according to community capabilities.
- The Community Covenant signing ceremony is a way to articulate the community's commitment to its local military. The signing is purely symbolic, but carries a deep moral commitment to actively support Service Members and their Families.
- Community Covenant implementation emphasizes a tangible outcome.



Army Community Covenant

SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SERVE



June 25th, 2009

Together, We are committed to building strong communities.

We the Community, recognize...

- ...The commitment Service Members and their Families are making every day.
- ...The strength of Service Members comes from the strength of their Families.
- ...The strength of the Families is supported by the strength of the Community.
- ...The strength of the Community comes from the support of Employers, Educators, Civic and Business leaders, and its Citizens.

We, the Community, are committed to...

- ...Building partnerships that support the strength, resilience, and readiness of Service Members and their families.
- ...Assisting in the implementation of the Army Family Covenant.



Community support networks:

After signing community covenants in 2011, Madison, Florida and Jacksonville, Texas organized community support networks to meet the needs of local service members, veterans and their families, such as: medical transportation, financial support/counseling, home maintenance, spiritual counseling, child care services and behavioral health support.

Grassroots support:

Chelmsford, Massachusetts signed a community covenant in 2009 and continues to provide local support such as grocery shopping, grass mowing and organizing social events.

Utility abatement:

A six-person community covenant National Guard team works with local communities in Utah to inspire support. An unique outcome of their diligence is free/reduced utility services for active, guard and reserve soldiers.



A Joining Community Forces Partner



State volunteerism:

Following a community covenant signing, the Iowa American Legion Posts created "Operation: Troop Support" to coordinate volunteerism in many local communities to assist military families with car repairs, home and lawn maintenance, and financial assistance.

Relocation services:

In May 2008, the Fayetteville community signed a community covenant to 'make a difference in the lives of Soldiers and Families' in the local community , formed the 'Army's Army and serve as a relocation resource.

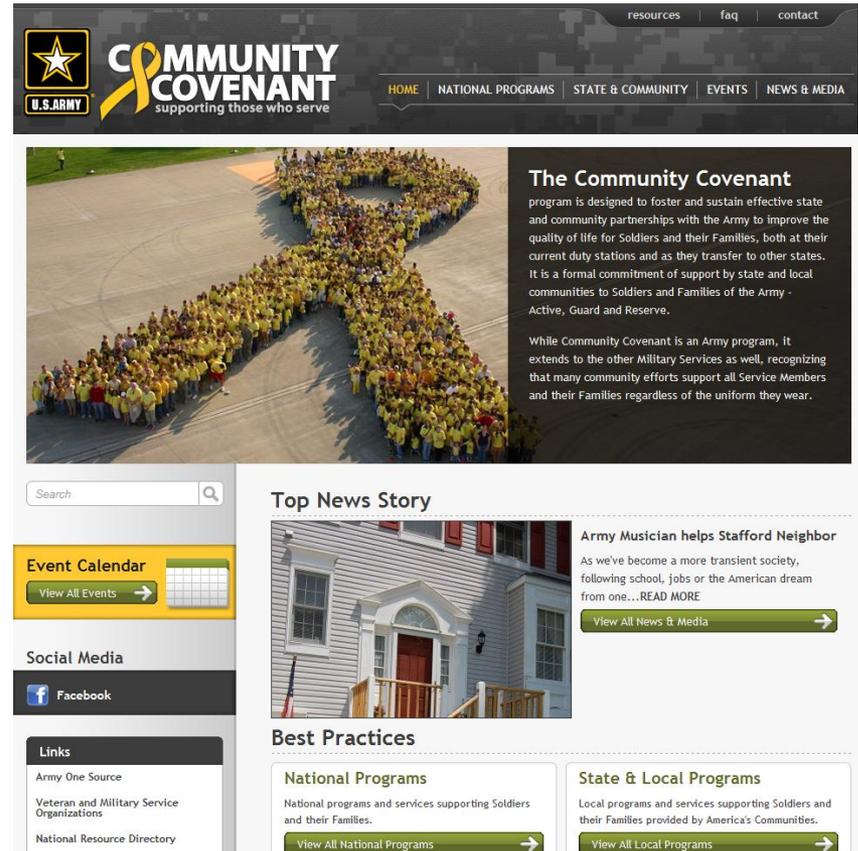
Employment:

After a signing in Oct. 2011, the Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, with local business support, initiated the Chamber's "Hiring Our Heroes" program.



www.army.mil/community

- National Programs and Services
- State/Local Programs & Initiatives
- Upcoming Events
- Facebook Page
- Covenant Inspired News
- Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Contact link



resources | faq | contact

COMMUNITY COVENANT
supporting those who serve

HOME | NATIONAL PROGRAMS | STATE & COMMUNITY | EVENTS | NEWS & MEDIA

The Community Covenant
program is designed to foster and sustain effective state and community partnerships with the Army to improve the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families, both at their current duty stations and as they transfer to other states. It is a formal commitment of support by state and local communities to Soldiers and Families of the Army - Active, Guard and Reserve.

While Community Covenant is an Army program, it extends to the other Military Services as well, recognizing that many community efforts support all Service Members and their Families regardless of the uniform they wear.

Search

Event Calendar
View All Events →

Social Media
Facebook

Links
Army One Source
Veteran and Military Service Organizations
National Resource Directory

Top News Story
Army Musician helps Stafford Neighbor
As we've become a more transient society, following school, jobs or the American dream from one...[READ MORE](#)
View All News & Media →

Best Practices
National Programs
National programs and services supporting Soldiers and their Families.
View All National Programs →

State & Local Programs
Local programs and services supporting Soldiers and their Families provided by America's Communities.
View All Local Programs →



A Joining Community Forces
Partner

Community Covenant – An Enduring and Necessary Program

- Enhances community support to help fill gaps and provides alternatives to Army services
- Inspires new programs to support transitioning, reintegrating, and geographically dispersed Soldiers and Families (not near military installations)
- Syncs national and regional support efforts at the local level
- Links community support to specific Soldier/Family needs
- Reduces stress on Military Families and builds resilience
- Sustains a local network of support for Soldiers and their Families



“We need engagement from organizations not normally involved in military issues, to help us, to provide us expertise, to fill the gaps between where our government programs are able to help our families and where they cannot.”

*General Raymond T. Odierno, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army
October 14, 2011*

Thank You For Your Support!



A Joining Community Forces
Partner

Mr. Rob Hansgen, Community Covenant Program Analyst

E-mail: Robert.Hansgen@us.army.mil, Phone: (571) 256-8686

States: Alabama, District of Columbia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, South Carolina, West Virginia

Ms. Maria Lloyd, Community Covenant Outreach Specialist

E-mail: Maria.Lloyd@us.army.mil, Phone: (571) 256-8687

States: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Vermont, Virginia

Mr. Rob Bush, Community Covenant Program Analyst

E-mail: Robert.E.Bush@us.army.mil, Phone: (571) 256-8691

States: Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

