

# Arden Hills Family Assistance Center Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Monthly News



Happy New Year!

Welcome to the Arden Hills monthly newsletter for all of the area Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Communities That I work with. In this newsletter I would like to include an idea exchange, answer frequently asked questions, share best practices, and introduce resources available to military members and their families.

Each month I would like to feature a meet the Yellow Ribbon area where leaders and/or volunteers are featured so we can get to know each other. If you would like to share, please send me a short Bio and picture. I will need one soon for February. If you would like to use a group photo instead, that is great too, please include a Bio/Why you chose to be involved with BYR.



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*An idea for communities to honor fallen Service Members*

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## January BYR Helps- THANK YOU!

This Month BTYR's helped me assist with:

- Helped a Service member who lost everything in an apartment fire to have needed household items.
- Assisted a Veteran's family that was experiencing pay issues through the VA to have a little peace of mind.

## Meet this Month's Resource:

Military One Source provides many free services for military members and their families. Some of the services they provide are:

- \*Information on education and employment
- \*Youth Resources
- \*Spouse Resources
- \*Free Financial Counseling
- \*Free Non-Medical Counseling
- \*Information for Available Legal Resources
- \*Free Tax Preparation
- \*Please visit their website to see the many resources available



1-800-342-9647

[www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)

## Question of the Month: How can we keep up participation when there are not as many deployments happening in our area?

This has been a common question as I have visited different communities. A few ideas to create events that would help include everyone and also get the word out for your groups:

- \*Host a meal for the Service members in your community through the VFW, Legion, or area Churches. Please contact me if you need a connection to an armory and/or unit.
- \*Create a military appreciation bulletin board at church, inviting the congregation to hang pictures of their service members/veterans. They have just self identified! Also include your BTYR meeting/contact information so they can join you
- \*April is the month of the military child— work with area schools to create military nights where military children and their families get into sporting events and/or facilities for free.
- Host a military children's game/pizza day at a local school.
- Host a community military kids carnival with area church/school. Invite your Police Department, Fire Department, clowns, or area businesses to participate.
- \*Host a game day or host a game puzzle day to get games for VA Homes or Retirement Homes in your area
- \*Have a Facebook and take many pictures! This will get the word out and let others see what your group is doing.

Do you have ideas that have worked for your community? If so shoot me an email and I will include it in next month's issue.

I was asked by a Yellow Ribbon Community to provide goals for 2017 and my Mission Statement as a FAC. I took this to heart and thought that I would actually like to share this with all my Yellow Ribbons.

**My goal as a FAC Specialist for Arden Hills:**

\*To provide support and resources for area Providers, Veterans, and Service members and their Families.

\*To strengthen support by networking with area resources and ensuring that area service members and their families understand that this office is here to help them if the need should arise.

\*To build relationships with my Yellow Ribbon communities by attending as many meetings as possible, volunteer and/or support as many of your fundraisers/events as I can.

\*Distribute information for your events so each of my Yellow Ribbons feel that I can be used as a resource for them as well.

**Please feel free to use me for:**

\*Vetting needs/ service for military families that approach you with a request

\*Refer/share the needs of requestors as I may have resources also available

\*Distribution of information for events and fundraising

\*Assistance with annual paperwork

\*Or anything that you may want to discuss or have questions on

**Mission Statement:** Provide caring, thoughtful, and thorough service for my area Service Members and their families.

The end result/goal for me is helping area service members and their families through life changes while they are serving. Also, to thank those who have served for their service and connect them with any benefits they have earned. That is key for me, I also strive to support those that are supporting them as well.

In Conclusion what you provide is important, and I appreciate all you do in your communities for our military members and their families. Thank you for helping to bring them all the way home.

## Arden Hills Family Assistance Center

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You make the call, We'll  
make the difference

*Like us on Facebook at:*

*<https://www.facebook.com/>*

*[mn.militaryfamilyassistancecenters/](https://www.facebook.com/mn.militaryfamilyassistancecenters/)*



## Events being hosted by Beyond the Yellow Ribbons

**January 29- BTYR Quad Community Bowling Fundraiser Sunday, Jan. 29 11am-1pm  
Doyles Bowling & Lounge 5000 West Broadway Ave.**

**\$20 per person**

**(includes three games, shoes and lunch)**

**February 13- Suburban Ramsey County BTYR Burger Night 5-7pm White Bear Lake  
VFW (Every Second Monday of the Month) 4496 Lake Ave S, White Bear Lake,  
MN 55110**

**February 22- Hugo BTYR Burger Night 5-8PM (Every 4th Wednesday Monthly) Hu-  
go American Legion 5383 140th St N Hugo, MN 55038**

**Please let me know if you area is hosting a fundraiser or event and I will list it  
here as well!**