

Wisconsin
Operation: Military Kids
November 2007



A mother from the 100th Division 334th Army Reserve Unit Family Readiness Group shares a card from a Hero Pack with her daughter.

1. OMK State Team

- The Wisconsin OMK Team met by phone conference on November 5. Four sub-committees are actively working: fund raising, school programs, and two SOMK groups. Each committee reported on their efforts.
- Since the Kickoff Event several small donations have been received. At this time the checks will be sent to the state 4-H office, and they will be added to the OMK Grant Account. Appropriate forms for taxes and thank you notes will need to be addressed by the committee.
- OMK has an overwhelming number of requests to assist with FRG activities in December.

2. OMK Ready, Set, Go

- Community of Racine
 - Location: Dr. Martin Luther King Community Center, Racine

- Audience: Thirty youth and parents
- Conducted by: Mary Day, OMK Team Member

3. OMK Informational Meetings/Briefings

- Meeting with Executive Director, Charity Eleson, of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, Madison, November 1st (three participants)
- Wisconsin Association of Athletic Directors Annual Conference, Appleton, 9:00am, November 5th (175 participants)
- Meeting with Assembly Speaker Mike Huebsch, Capitol, 1:00pm, November 7th (three participants)
- Presentation to the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Board of Directors (they represent the 11 Tribal Nations in Wisconsin) Mole Lake, November 8th (thirty-nine participants)
- Meeting with the Director of Wisconsin Public Radio, Madison, Phil Corriveau and management team, November 12th (four participants)
- Meeting with Sen. Scott Fitzgerald of the Wisconsin Legislature and staff, Madison November 13th (five participants)
- Meeting with the Executive Committees of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators, Wisconsin Education Association Council and their Executive Directors, Madison, November 15th (seventeen participants)
- Meeting with Cooperative Educational Service Area (CESA) 5 Professional Advisory Committee (PAC), November 16th, Tomahawk, (thirty-eight participants)
- Meeting with River Ridge School Board and Superintendent, Bloomington, November 19th, (ten participants)
- Meeting with Menomonee Falls School Board and Superintendent, Menomonee Falls, November 26th (twenty-one participants)
- Presentation at the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators' New Superintendents Academy in Madison, November 28th (forty participants)
- Meeting with Racine Unified School District Student Services Director, Racine, November 12 (two participants)
- Bradford High School, Kenosha, (five participants)

4. Youth Focused Programs

- Topic of Program: Reintegration Weekend Event, Nov 2-4
 - Location: Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin
 - Audience: Seventy children of returning National Guard
 - Presented by: Six UW-Platteville Student OMK Counselors, and one OMK Team Member.
- Topic of Program: Tree Lighting Ceremony

- Location: Fort McCoy, Nov. 29
- Audience: This year two children who have a father deployed to Iraq assisted the Commander with lighting the tree. A video was made and sent to their father.
- Topic of Program: Honoring Our Veterans
 - Location: UW-Parkside, Nov. 10
 - Audience: Fifteen youth and nine adults
 - Military youth created and read poems and stories they created about veterans and current military personnel. The documents expressed the students' gratitude for the military services that veterans provided and current troops are providing.

5. SOMK Trainings/Presentations

- Topic of Program: Reintegration Activities
 - Location: UW-Platteville, Nov. 1
 - Audience: Six Student Counselors
 - Presented by: OMK Team Member

6. Mobile Technology Lab

- Wisconsin does not have a mobile technology lab.

7. Hero Packs



- The 100th Division 334ths Army Reserve Unit Family Readiness Group meeting was held in Sparta, WI, December 1st. The group is preparing for deployment in the next few months. Families were in

attendance at this event as it was also a holiday gathering. Twenty children of soldiers were present at the event and received Hero Packs. A brief presentation was given about what OMK in WI is doing and what the national OMK program is. A description of Hero Packs was given and a letter was read from one of the packs. Children then received their packs and investigated their contents. Many thank you's were given from youth, their parents, and OMK volunteers.

