



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Support Local Families During Military Family Month**

*While their loved ones serve overseas, the West End YMCA helps families of military personnel maintain their health and well-being*

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017 – For nearly 25 years, YMCAs have celebrated Military Family Month, providing Americans the opportunity to recognize the dedication, sacrifice, and service of military personnel and their families. Throughout the year, and especially this November, the West End YMCA supports military families with programs and initiatives that improve their well-being and provide opportunities to connect with other families waiting at home.

“Deployment can be a stressful and uncertain time for servicemen and women and their families,” said Damon Colaluca, President & CEO, West End YMCA. “The Y has numerous ways we can help, whether it’s providing a place where kids can make friends and have a sense of belonging or providing a place for adults to meet health goals, we are able to help.”

The West End YMCA offers Y memberships at it’s Chino Valley Y and Scheu Family Y through the Military Outreach Initiative and child care through the Respite Child Care program. Since 2008, the Military Outreach Initiative has provided more than 75,000 Y memberships to military members and their families and more than 115,000 children received child care through the Respite Child Care program or similar programs.

First established by the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) and recognized by first lady Nancy Reagan in 1993, Military Family Month recognizes the dedication and service of military personnel and their families. On Oct. 30, 2009, President Barack Obama continued this important initiative by proclaiming November as Military Family Month, calling on “all Americans to honor military families through private actions and public service for the tremendous contributions they make in the support of our service members and our Nation.”

To learn more about the Y and programming that supports military families, contact Jackie Ordinola at (909) 481-0722 or [www.WEymca.org/militarymembership](http://www.WEymca.org/militarymembership).

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### **About the Y**

The Y is one of the nation’s leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the U.S., 2,700 Ys engage 22 million men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation’s health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Anchored in more than 10,000 communities, the Y has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. [ymca.net](http://ymca.net)