

FORT MCCOY ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWSLETTER



Army Community Service (ACS) enhances the well-being and quality of life of Fort McCoy military members, Families and civilians by providing real life solutions for successful Army living.

SEPTEMBER 2026

The ACS Office will be closed on Mon, Sep 7 in observance of Labor Day.

PLAY MORNINGS

Sep 8, 15 & 22 | 10 am - 12 pm | ACS Family Building (B2161)

Our playgroup offers toys, books, and other materials to help strengthen your child's social-emotional skills, creativity, play and cognitive development. To register, [e-mail here](#) or call 502-898-2412.

NEWCOMER'S ORIENTATION

Sep 9 | 8 am - 1 pm | McCoy's Community Center (B1571)

Are you new to Fort McCoy? Come and learn what we have to offer. Breakfast is provided. Spouses are encouraged to attend. To register, [e-mail here](#) or call 502-898-2359.

PCS OPEN HOUSE

Sep 16 | 11 am - 1 pm | ACS Family Building (B2161)

PSCing from Fort McCoy? Your next move starts here! Representatives includes ACS Relocation Readiness, ACS EFMP, Personal Property Processing Office, LRC Transportation Passenger Movement Section, DPW Housing Office, DHR Military Personnel Division, CYS School Liaison Officer. To register, [e-mail here](#) or call 502-898-2359.

ALL ABILITIES CRAFT NIGHT

Sep 17 | 4:30 pm - 7 pm | ACS Family Building (B2161)

Art offers individuals with all abilities a way to communicate. Practicing art has been shown to increase fine motors skills, improve focus, gain self-confidence, strengthen cognitive development and improve mood. Choose from a variety of art projects including sensory crafts, stamping, canvas painting, scrapbooking and more! To register, [email here](#) or call 502-898-7262.

FORT MCCOY ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE (ACS) Sponsorship TRAINING

For Military & Civilian Personnel

ACS Sponsorship Sessions are designed to equip you with strategies and tools to effectively sponsor incoming personnel.

IN THESE SESSIONS, YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO:

ALIGN: Ensure sponsors and newcomers are connected to the right resources.

CARE: Offer guidance to help newcomers settle in smoothly.

SUPPORT: Gain skills needed to assist newcomers during transition.



2026 DATES:

Mar 6, Jun 5, Sep 4, Dec 4

Military: 10 am - 11 am

Civilians: 1 pm - 2 pm

**Army Community Service
2111 South 8th Ave**

To register, contact Army Community Service at 502-898-2359 or email jesse.k.ogundu.civ@army.mil

Must be registered at least 2 days prior to the training. ACS events are open to Military, Retirees, Civilian workforce, Family Members and registered Fort McCoy Volunteers, unless otherwise stated. Employees must contact their supervisors regarding disqualification from work centers. For information on upcoming training opportunities through ACS please go to <http://mccoy.armymwr.com/us/mccoy/programs/army-community-service> and click on ACS Calendar.



Upcoming Events & Trainings

QUARTERLY *Connections*



Join us to celebrate the
recipes that makes our lives richer

NOVEMBER 4, 2026

4:00PM | SOUTH POST
COMMUNITY CENTER

Register for our next quarterly event anytime! Call Army Community Service at
502-898-2359 or email jesse.k.ogundu.civ@army.mil

Open to, to Soldiers, Spouses, and DOD Civilians assigned to Fort McCoy.



SPOUSE ORIENTATION



CONNECTING TO YOUR NEW COMMUNITY

READY TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR NEW ASSIGNMENT?

The Spouse Orientation is your launchpad for success! This dynamic session is more than just a welcome - it's your guide to unlocking career and educational opportunities, building a strong support network, and discovering the best programs for you and your family.

Get empowered with the knowledge and connections you need to thrive at Fort McCoy, WI.



DATES:

AUG 19, 2026
9 AM - 11 AM

NOV 4, 2026
9 AM - 11 AM

MAR 17, 2027
9 AM - 11 AM

McCOY'S COMMUNITY CENTER

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CALL ACS
502-898-2412/3505

OR EMAIL brittany.r.sonie.civ@army.mil or jesse.k.ogundu.civ@army.mil





RELOCATION COMPASS

More Than a Move

September has a way of bringing everyday life back into focus. School buses are back on the road, calendars are filling up, and Families are settling into new routines as summer winds down.

If a PCS is somewhere on your horizon, those everyday questions start showing up too. What school will the kids attend? What will the commute look like? Where will you go for the things your Family needs? And for many military spouses, there is another big question: What happens with my career?

Whether Fort McCoy is still months away, moving day is getting close, or you have already arrived, relocation is about more than getting from one place to another. It is also about preparing for the life that comes with the move. Along the way, ACS serves as your compass, helping you prepare, connect, and find the resources that make each stage of the move a little easier.

There's More to the M.O.V.E.

The M.O.V.E. is more than boxes and travel plans. It's the routines, opportunities, and connections that help life fall into place.

M - Map More Than the Route: Start learning about what your Family may need before you arrive. Relocation Readiness, Sponsorship, Newcomers Orientation, CYS, and School Liaison services can help you get a better picture of what life at Fort McCoy may look like.

O - Open the Door to Opportunity: For military spouses, employment can be part of PCS planning too. Employment Readiness can help with resumes, career planning, job-search strategies, and connecting with employment opportunities. The Education Center can also help if education or training is part of your next step.

V - Venture Out and Connect: Getting settled is easier when you start meeting people and discovering what is around you. Military Spouse Orientation, Tot's Playgroup, the Volunteer Program, ACS events, and activities throughout Fort McCoy and the surrounding communities are all places to start.

E - Ease into Everyday Life: New routines take time. Financial Readiness, the Lending Closet, and other ACS programs can help make everyday life a little easier while your Family finds what works.

You do not have to figure everything out at once. Start with what matters most to your Family and build from there.

Visit ACS at 2111 S. 8th Ave. to learn more about programs and services designed to help you feel connected and supported throughout your relocation.

WISCONSIN COMES ALIVE IN CRANBERRY COUNTRY



For one weekend in September, the small town of Warrens turns into one of those places you have to see for yourself.

The Warrens Cranberry Festival brings the streets to life with food, art, crafts, local vendors, and cranberry marsh tours that give you a closer look at Wisconsin's most recognizable traditions. It's the kind of day where you can walk, explore, try something new, and leave feeling like you experienced a piece of Wisconsin you probably would not find anywhere else.

If you are new to Fort McCoy, this is an easy way to get out and discover what is beyond the gate. If your move is still a few months away put Warrens on your list for later. Getting to know a new duty station is not about learning where things are. Sometimes it is about finding the places that make you glad that you came.

RELOCATION READINESS

THE LINK



Between the Lines

A resume can tell you where someone worked, what they did, how long they were there, and maybe a few things they accomplished along the way. What it cannot always tell you is what happened in between. It does not explain why a job ended just as things were starting to fall into place, why there may be months between one position and the next, or why a career suddenly took a completely different direction.

Sometimes there was a move behind it. New orders. A new place to live. Schools to figure out, routines to rebuild, and a household that needed to get settled before looking for the next opportunity could even make it to the top of the list.

Then, when the time finally comes to start looking again, there is another adjustment. You figure out what is available, update the resume, translate experience that may not fit neatly into the next job, and walk into another interview hoping the person across the table can see more than what is written on the page.

Because on paper, it may just look like a gap, a career change, or a few jobs that do not seem to connect. But they do.

Military spouses carry something from every stop along the way. Experience. Perspective. They picked up skills because they had to adapt, learn quickly, work with different people, and find another way forward when the original plan changed. A resume may show where they have worked. It may not show how many times they had to rebuild to get there.

That is Where the Link Shows Up

As Labor Day recognizes the work people do and the contributions they make, it is also a reminder that not every contribution fits neatly into a job title or a timeline. For military spouses, sometimes the most important part of the story is found between the lines.

STAY CONNECTED

Connection doesn't always happen on its own. Sometimes it starts with showing up. Here are few ways to stay connected and find your place.

PLAY MORNINGS

Sep 8, 15 & 22 | 10 am - 12 pm | ACS Family Building

A casual space for kids to play while you meet other parents and build connections.

ALL ABILITIES CRAFT NIGHT

Sep 17 | 4:30 pm - 7 pm | ACS Family Building

Relax, create, and connect with others in a laid-back setting where you and your Family members can work on your choice of art projects.

SPOUSE ORIENTATION

Nov 4 | 9 - 11 am | McCoy's Community Center

This is your launchpad for success! Get empowered with the knowledge and connections you need to thrive at Fort McCoy.

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lending Closet

We temporarily loan housekeeping items to incoming or outgoing Fort McCoy personnel while their items are in transit.



ITEMS AVAILABLE INCLUDE:

- Air Mattresses
- Tables & Chairs
- Vacuum Cleaners
- Coffee Pots
- Dishes
- Microwaves
- Instant Pots
- Electric Griddles

STOP IN TO ACS OR CALL 502-898-2359 TO LEARN MORE





SHARE A Recipe SHARE A Story

Turning everyday recipes into shared connection,
resilience and readiness for the Fort McCoy community.

SHARE

your family's favorite
recipes and the stories
that make them special.

CONNECT

with your community at
a fun, quarterly food
gatherings.

NOURISH

your family and spiritual
wellness through the simple
joy of sharing.

Monthly Recipe Submissions

Submit your family-tested recipes to ACS by the 15th of each month
by emailing jesse.k.ogundu.civ@army.mil



Flavors of Fort McCoy is where the community shares recipes that carried us through busy seasons.

Exploring a new community is one way to make connections. Sometimes the simplest way is right across the street. This month's recipe brings a little Wisconsin flavor to the table with cranberries, oats, and white chocolate. Make a batch for your Family or make a few extra. A plate of cookies can be an easy reason to introduce yourself to a neighbor and turn a quick hello into the beginning of a new connection.

WISCONSIN'S BEST CRANBERRY COOKIES

Submitted by: Dale Gibson & Sue Rohling

Prep Time: 15 min | Cook Time: 10-12 min | Servings: 2 ½ dozen

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tsp vanilla
- ⅔ cup butter, softened
- ⅔ cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 ½ cups of old-fashioned oats
- 1 ½ cups flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 package (6 oz.) sweetened dried cranberries
- ⅔ cup white chocolate chunks or chips



DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Using an electric mixer, beat the butter, vanilla, and brown sugar together until light and fluffy.
3. Add eggs and mix well.
4. In a separate bowl, combine the oats, flour, baking soda, and salt.
5. Add the dry ingredients to the butter mixture in several additions, mixing well after each one.
6. Stir in the dried cranberries and white chocolate chunks or chips.
7. Drop rounded teaspoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheets.
8. Bake for 10-12 minutes, or until golden brown.

Dale's Note: The bag of cranberries purchased was 8 ounces, so the whole bag went in. The white chocolate got a little extra too - 1 cup of chips instead of 2/3 cup.

WHY IT MATTERS:

A PCS changes more than an address. It can change a school, a job, a routine, and the people you see every day. Sometimes feeling at home starts with something as simple as sharing a plate of cookies and saying hello.

Job Shadow at Tomah Health!



At Tomah Health, we encourage individuals to explore a “day in the life” of our experienced staff through a job shadow. Job shadows help obtain professional references, discover the many career paths a hospital has to offer, and allows you to gain firsthand knowledge about a career you may already be interested in.

JOB SHADOW REQUIREMENTS:

- You must be at least 15 years old. If under 18, a signed parent/guardian consent form is required.
- Job Shadows must have a flu vaccination during flu season (Oct 1 – Mar 31). No declinations will be accepted.
- You must complete our Online Job Shadow Application. Please submit your application for the Job Shadow Experience at least two weeks before the requested date.
- Tomah Health’s Employee Health Dept. will clear each Job Shadow.

**Scan the QR code and select
“Employment Assistance”
for more information on
current career opportunities.**



Tomah Health is a member of the Military Spouse Hiring Initiative.

2-411th Battalion

COMMUNITY JOB FAIR

Connect Top-Tier Talent with World-Class Opportunity

Friday, September 11, 2026

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Building 705, Fort McCoy, Wisconsin

Open to Our Entire Military Community

For Soldiers, Spouses, Family Members, Veterans, Retirees, AC / AGR / ADOS in transition, DA Civilians, MilTechs, and our community job seekers.

★ YOUR NEXT MISSION STARTS HERE ★

WHY ATTEND?

- ★ Meet employers face-to-face
- ★ Explore opportunities to advance your civilian career
- ★ Network, learn, and take the next step
- ★ Connect with resources and support organizations beyond the job fair

★ SPECIAL EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Connecting top-tier talent with meaningful opportunities
- ★ Honoring your service and supporting your next mission
- ★ Welcoming military families and community job seekers
- ★ Resources, tools, and support to fuel your success

Participation by private employers does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or this installation.

Need base access?

Scan the QR code below to register for Fort McCoy base access before the event.

Hosted by 2-411th LSBN

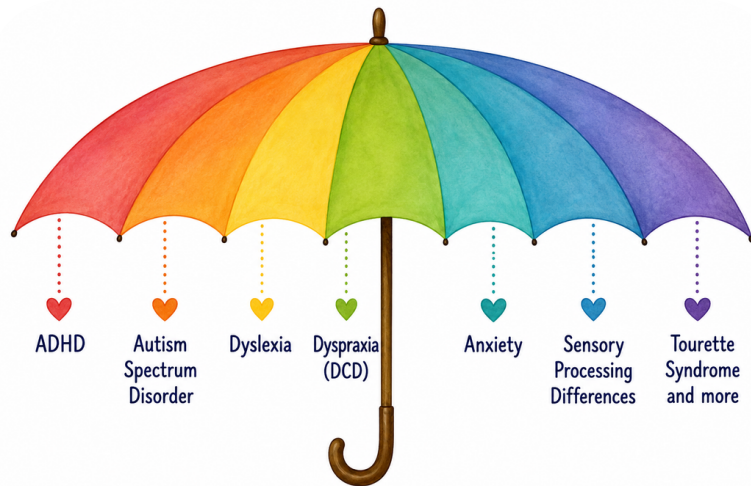
EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM

*Check out this new support group offered by the Sparta Parenting Place!
Connect with other parents that are going through similiar experiences.*

NeuroStrong

PARENT CONNECTION

If you have a child with learning disabilities, special needs, or behavioral issues including but not limited to:



On-site child care will be provided. Please join us for this **free** program offering connection, support, and understanding with community facilitated by Parent Educator, Cara Anderson.

Tuesdays from 9:00-10:30 am
900 E Montgomery St, Sparta

Questions?

Contact Cara Anderson at 608-784-8125 ext. 241



URSANO SCHOLARSHIP FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN

**Congratulations to Isabella McCall,
LTC Chaplain McCall's daughter for
applying for and being awarded
the Major General James Ursano
Scholarship through AER.**

KINDNESS KORNER

September is a season of change, with cooler days and new routines settling in. It's the perfect time to show kindness through patience and understanding—whether with students returning to busier schedules or neighbors preparing for fall. A small act of encouragement or a simple smile can bring warmth to someone's day and remind them they are not alone.

Let's carry kindness with us into this new season of growth and connection.