

# FORT MCCOY ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024



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.

## Upcoming Events & Trainings

### CONNECT THE TOTS

Apr 2, 9 & 30 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | ACS Family Building (B2161)

Our playgroup contains toys, books, and other materials to help strengthen each child's cognitive, physical, and creative selves, and to help promote social-emotional skill building. Through play, transitions, circle time and songs and activities, and informal conversations, parents learn about developmental ages and stages, gain tools to help understand their child's behavior and become empowered to prepare the Family and child to enter school "ready to learn". To register, [e-mail here](#) or call x2412.

### NEWCOMER'S ORIENTATION

Apr 10 | 8:00 am - 1:00 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 highly encouraged to attend. To register, [e-mail here](#) or call x6712.

### CREDIT MANAGEMENT

April 16 | 9:00 am - 10:00 am | Army Community Service (B2111) or via Teams

Have you ever wondered what causes your credit score to fluctuate? Do you know why you are being charged a higher interest rate than your neighbor? Join ACS for this eye opening training that will separate fact from fiction when it comes to credit. To register, [email here](#) or call x3540.

### TRICARE & COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE (CVSO) BENEFITS BRIEF

Apr 23 | 9:00 - 11:00 am | Army Community Service (B2111)

Are you struggling with TRICARE Prime Remote issues? Do you have questions regarding post military benefits and not sure how to access them? If so, these briefings are for you! CVSO briefing, 9 am - 10 am. TRICARE Humana briefing 10 am - 11 am. To register, [e-mail here](#) or call x6712.

## Building Wealth WITH YOUR VA HOME LOAN



MONDAY, APRIL 29  
2 PM or 4 PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 30  
9 AM

ARMY COMMUNITY  
SERVICE BLDG 2111

If you are eligible for a VA home loan and have questions or are just confused about the process, join Army Community Service (ACS) in welcoming Mike Cox and Brian Hofmann to learn how maximizing your VA loan can help you build wealth.



**Mike Cox** is a mortgage professional with 23 years of experience. As a long-time advocate for veterans, Mike has made it his mission to educate thousands of veterans about the VA home loan program, helping them navigate the process and secure affordable housing.

His dedication to serving the veteran community has earned him numerous awards and recognition for his efforts.



**Brian Hofmann** brings a wealth of experience to the real estate industry through his current experience in loan origination and previous 10-year position in real estate appraising.

As a devoted advocate for Veterans, Brian channels his passion into education and outreach within the Veteran community. He graciously shares his knowledge by traveling across the country, providing valuable resources, and fostering connections.

Brian's humble approach and genuine enthusiasm empower Veterans and others to make informed decisions in the mortgage industry.

Register by calling **608-388-3540** or emailing [janeen.j.folgers.civ@army.mil](mailto:janeen.j.folgers.civ@army.mil)

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 dismissal from work centers.

[mccoy.armymwr.com](http://mccoy.armymwr.com) | **608-388-3505**



2111 South 8th Ave, Fort McCoy, WI 54656



608-388-3505



[mccoy.armymwr.com](http://mccoy.armymwr.com)



[facebook.com/mccoymwr](https://facebook.com/mccoymwr)



Throughout of the month of April, the ACS Awareness Tree is highlighting two important prevention themes.



## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION (SAAPM) MONTH

The Army's 2024 SAAPM theme is "Change Through Unity: Empower. Protect. Prevent." This theme emphasizes unity in the fight against sexual assault; promotion of respect and empowerment for all; and the role of Army Team members in creating healthy climates while reinforcing their responsibility to act to prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment.

The SHARP invites you to visit our SAAPM-themed Awareness Tree in Building 2111 during the month of April. Please ask for the Fort McCoy Garrison SHARP team while you are here so we can come down and say hi!



## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

People who abuse or neglect children come from all ranks, races, religions, and income levels. The good news is that child abuse and neglect can be prevented. You can do your part to keep military children safe and secure by:

- Learning more about what child abuse and neglect are
- Understanding signs that a child may be at risk
- Knowing how to report suspected abuse

Learn more at: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/preventing-violence-abuse/child-abuse/signs-of-child-abuse/>

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS/PREVENTION MONTH

# Strike-Out Sexual Assault

## Virtual Bowling Event

**APRIL 22 - 26, 2024**

Show your support and Strike-Out Sexual Assault by participating in a Virtual Bowling Event! Come to McCoy's Community Center and bowl a standard 10 frame round and post a photo to the event discussion board at: [www.facebook.com/McCOYMWR](https://www.facebook.com/McCOYMWR)



**USAJOBS**  
"WORKING FOR AMERICA"

Search Jobs

Training is available online at:  
[www.usajobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov)

Writing Your Resume for Federal Jobs  
Apr 1, 2024 | 2:00 - 3:15 pm

Federal Resume Writing Class  
Apr 10, 2024

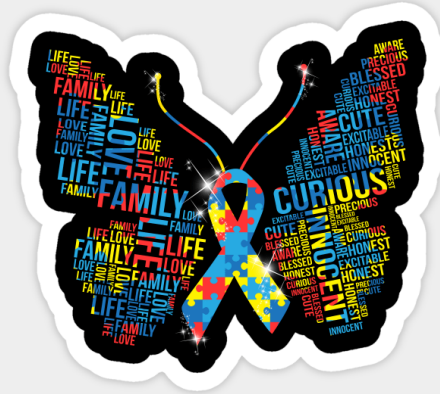
Writing Your Resume for Federal Jobs  
Apr 23, 2024

Fort McCoy SHARP 24/7 Helpline 608-388-3000 | DoD Safe Helpline 877-995-5247 | #SAAPM2024



# WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. According to the Centers for Disease Control, autism affects an estimated 1 in 36 children and 1 in 45 adults in the United States today. We know there is not one type of autism, but many. Autism looks different for everyone, and each person with autism has a distinct set of strengths and challenges. On average, autism is diagnosed around age 5 in the U.S., with signs appearing by age 2 or 3. For more detailed information and autism awareness items, please stop by Army Community Service.



## AUTISM COLORS AND SYMBOLS

**The Rainbow Spectrum:** The range of colors inside the rainbow represent the scope of abilities and diagnoses on the autism spectrum – highlighting the variety of abilities and challenges each face.

**Blue:** Blue is associated with calmness and acceptance and is the primary color designated for autism. It also stems from the worldwide Autism Speaks initiative, Light It Up Blue. This campaign calls for people to wear blue in support of autism awareness on April 2nd.

**The Puzzle Piece** – Typically the puzzle piece is rainbow-colored or solid blue and was one of the first and continues to be an emblem for well-known organizations supporting Autism.

**The Butterfly:** The butterfly was created as an alternative to represent the beauty of diversity. The notion of the butterfly transforming into its beauty by emerging on its own time is mirrored by the continuing development of an individual with autism who develops skills and milestones on their own schedules. Every butterfly is different, just as each person with autism is too.

**The Infinity Symbol:** The infinity symbol is another alternative to the puzzle piece, often paired with the rainbow spectrum. It inspires the aspiration for inclusivity and integration into society for people on the autism spectrum. It can also represent a love of numbers, something many autistic people share.

## E-EFMP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Directorate of Prevention, Resilience and Readiness is offering E-EFMP training for Soldiers and their Families. During the interactive sessions participants will learn how to make a smooth permanent change of station with children who are receiving special education and other related services. Offered from March through December, the sessions will be led by Marcine Best, special education specialist, EFMP Central Office. Please review the information below and share it with your team.



504 Plans Access and Accommodations  
[April 2 at 9 am ET](#)

What Happens When We PCS: Before and After  
[April 16 at 9 am ET](#)

Talk-Back Thursday: The What of Evaluations  
[May 16 at 9 am ET](#)

IEP: More Than a Snapshot  
[May 23 at 9 am ET](#)

*Please Note: Training participation is voluntary. Links are active only at the time and day of the sessions.*

# Kindness Korner

## 5 WAYS YOU CAN SHOW KINDNESS TO PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

1. Listen to and Talk with Them.
2. Respect Their Choices and Their Bodies.
3. Include Them.
4. Assume They Can Do Things.
5. Make Sure They Have the Support They Need.