

Five tips for engaging with young families on your base



Since the pandemic, many military families have struggled to reconnect, creating social isolation that can lead to harmful behaviors. We understand how hard it is for military leaders to help break that dangerous cycle. MOPS helps chaplains build healthy community and improve spiritual readiness.

1

SHOW UP WHERE YOUNG FAMILIES ARE

Attend the festivals, school programs, MWR events, and free programs that young families enjoy on base. Mingle with families and see what their daily experience is like. Show families that you want to know more about them so you can do more for them.

2

ADJUST TO THEIR NEEDS

Provide childcare at events for families who have young kids. Host events at night or on weekends to accommodate for working spouses. If targeting service members, host events during the duty day so it doesn't take away from family time.

3

INVITE THEM INTO WHAT THE COMMAND IS DOING

Communication from the unit/command is a top need in all military family surveys. Overcommunicate about the mission, goals and challenges facing the command. Explain how spouses and family members are part of successful mission planning and execution.

4

PARTNER WITH UNIT SUPPORT GROUPS

The Chaplain Corps, family readiness groups, and unit support teams all share the same mission; to build healthy and resilient military families. Work together to communicate about support efforts. Show up and speak at group meetings about how you can help support them as they support you.

5

RESOURCE PROGRAMS THAT FOSTER COMMUNITY

Non-Federal Entities, like MOPS, are valuable organizations that provide vital and free services to military families. NFEs, like MOPS, help chaplains create community and spiritual readiness. All they need is your help with access and coordination.

Email us at military@mops.org to learn more about MOPS on your base.