



ESL Offers More Than Just Learning the Language!

By: Cesar Andujo, TJFACT Contractor, ESL Instructor

Army Community Service provides "English as a Second Language" (ESL) classes for Soldiers, DA civilians, and adult family members who are non-native English speakers.

There are three levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced. The goal of ESL classes is to improve knowledge of English grammar and sentence structure, pronunciation, and confidence in order to empower students to use English in daily situations.

This year the program graduated twelve students in level 1, nine students in level 2 and one student in level 3. All students received certificates of achievement for their hard work and dedication during the school year.

They improved their grammatical and conversational skills as well as their pronunciation, giving them the confidence to engage others using new words and phrases they learned.

Learning a new language can be exciting but also quite intimidating. Your ability to communicate with others affects you on a daily basis and can limit career opportunities.

Steady improvement and visible success encourage

students to challenge themselves and continue learning.

Having spent time in foreign countries myself and not knowing the language, I understand the barriers to communication my students face and how intimidating moving to another country can be.

The ESL program at ACS not only teaches students English, it also presents an opportunity for them to make friends and meet others who can identify with their situation.



Jayoung Lee receives her ESL certificate from ACS Chief Karen Milner

This is incredibly important if you are moving to a new country and may be feeling alone while adapting to Army life.

Most of the students attending ESL classes at ACS are new to the Army life and are away from home for the first time. We at Army Community Service strive to lessen the difficulty by providing the skills to communicate in English.

We recognize that the more exposure to English and the more practice we can offer, the easier it is to become comfortable speaking the language, and the faster they gain fluency.

I have personally witnessed this with several of my students this year, watching them transform from hesitant and apprehensive to confident and assertive.

One such student, Jayoung Lee, regularly helped her fellow students and was such an inspiration to them. She also received an award for outstanding attendance.

She showed the other students that the more you practice the more proficient you become. It was truly a pleasure and an honor to have such a motivated student.

This was repeated many times throughout the semester. Jayoung now confidently helps her daughter with her homework and they practice English together.

English as a Second Language classes are conducted August - May. To enroll for classes contact ACS Relocation Readiness at 270.798.6313/0513/956-2676 for an assessment and placement, and to enroll.

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ACS Celebrates 53 Years

Written By Kevin Smith,
ACS Outreach Program
Coordinator



LTC Emma M. Baird ACS founder and organizer

On July 25, 2018 the Army Community Service will be celebrating 53 years of providing solution focused services for our Soldiers, Family members, Retirees and Civilian employees.

However, we must not forget about the pioneers who paved the way for ACS to provide real life solutions for successful

Army living. This year we celebrate Ms. Emma Marie Baird.

The History and development of the Army Community Service (ACS) is attributed to LTC Emma Marie Baird. LTC Baird, is credited as “the mother of ACS” (myarmyonesource.com). As a 1st Lieutenant, Ms. Baird was assigned to the Army Emergency Relief and Personnel Affairs Offices.

That experience led her to create the structure and organization of a Family services program where all Soldiers and their Families could have their needs met at one location. As a result, the ACS was created.



On July 25, 1965 this concept officially became a reality when Army Chief of Staff Harold K. Johnson approved it.

On October 7, 1987, LTC (Ret) Emma Marie Baird passed away. To maintain her memory among Army Families, the LTC Emma Marie Baird Memorial Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service was established in 1988.

The award is presented annually to an Army Community Service volunteer who has contributed more than 3,750 hours over a five-year period and displayed outstanding leadership. The award also recognizes the vital roles volunteers provided in the creation of ACS that continues today.

The Fort Campbell ACS staff and community, would like to remember and celebrate the accomplishments of Lt. Col. Emma Baird whose enduring vision and legacy is still going Army strong for 53 years!



Your Financial Health Check

By Terrence O. Jones,
ACS Financial Readiness
Program Manager



Financial health is a term used to describe the state of one's personal financial situation. There are many dimensions to financial health, including the amount of savings you have, how much you are setting away for retirement and how much of your income you are spending on fixed or non-discretionary expenses.

When was the last time you (or have you ever) had a personal health check? Those who have it tend to take it for granted, and those who lack it may not even know what they are missing. Just as people usually don't go to the doctor unless they are ill, we do not out money-related help until they encounter some type of financial stress.

Financial health is having a balanced, comfortable relationship with money. Some signs of healthy financial health consist of living within your means and maintaining a positive cash flow; Communicating openly and

honestly within the Family around financial issues; Having clear financial goals and plans for meeting those goals; Using money, not as an end in itself, but as a tool to help achieve what is most important in life.

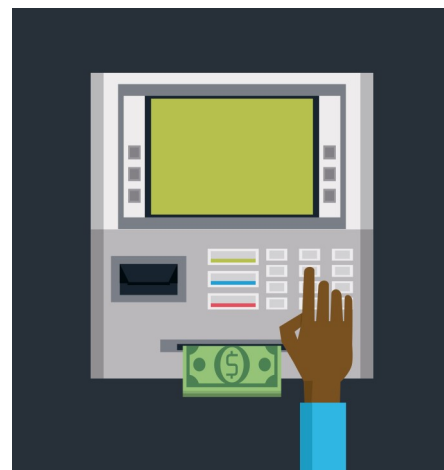
It is the goal of Army Community Service (ACS) Financial Readiness Counselors to help our Soldiers, Family members, and civilians throughout our installation create and maintain financial health. Creating a balanced financial life is not just about money.

Your mindset is instrumental in determining your various levels of personal, professional, and financial success. Our counselors want to help you build a financial plan that will provide a secure retirement for the future. Take a moment out of your busy day to assess your financial circumstances.

Along with one-on-one counseling, we can provide financial planning, setting financial goals aligned to your quality of life, your purpose, and your future. We can also

discuss, how to raise your credit score, making the most your retirement plans; how to get of debt and other financial concerns you may have.

Feel free to come by or call to get your financial health check. We are located at Building 2601 Indiana Ave or call us at 270-798-5518



Let's thrive to create a culture for Financial Wellness that benefit living your best life NOW!

MONEY MANAGEMENT MATTERS

FINANCIAL READINESS PROGRAM



Operation Homefront

Written By Dominic Certo
Contributed by Harold Owens,
ACS EFMP Social Services
Representative

Most charities of any nature are happy to return 80 cents or more of every dollar to the beneficiaries of their mission; and frankly if they do return 80 cents or more of every dollar, they are performing a noble task. But only one military charity has successfully been awarded for 10 consecutive years The 4 Star Charity Navigator Award, and that is Operation Homefront.

Operation Homefront has garnered acclaim and awards in every venue, from the news media, and military organizations, along with word-of-mouth from the veterans and their Families they serve.

Founded in 2002, Operation Homefront is a nationally-recognized nonprofit organization whose mission is to build strong, stable, and secure military Families so they can thrive – not simply struggle to get by – in the communities that they have worked so hard to protect.

With 115 employees and over 4,000 volunteers, including 20 National Board Members, Operation Homefront operates in 21 locations in 50 states. In the last five years, Operation Homefront has assisted more than 14,000 families in

financial distress while fulfilling over 35,000 military family requests for financial assistance. They've distributed more than \$20 million in financial assistance and in 2016 alone; Operation Homefront provided over \$3.7 million in assistance to vets, supporting more than 6,000 requests; and in the tradition of helping our combat vets, 84% of those vets in 2016 have a service connected disability.

Operation Homefront's Transitional Housing Villages provide short-term, rent-free housing for military Families as he service member transitions to civilian life. While waiting for VA benefits to kick in, the service members and families in its villages undergo a platform of caseworker-driven programs designed to help them make the transition smoothly.

These housing units operated by OH are in addition to over 600 mortgage-free homes that have been provided to veterans in need, and their Families, across the country. A program titled Homes on the Homefront has provided over \$50 million in needed homes to these vets, 83% of which are VA Disability rated.

In fact, nearly 30% were homeless when they entered the program.

Operation Homefront also continues to provide a program called Hearts of Valor. All Across the United States, Hearts of Valor provides crucial support for the Family and non-Family caregivers of service members severely injured and traumatized on the frontlines of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Over 3,200 caregivers participate in online or in-person support groups to help these deserving vets and their families with coping skills and increased awareness of knowing they are not alone in their struggle.

Other programs include: Back to School Brigade, to help children of the veterans' families with school needs; Holiday Meals for Military, which provides families meals for special holidays; Holiday Toy Drive, giving kids of these struggling families gifts during holidays; Military Child of the Year, awarding outstanding children of veterans a place of honor; and so many more.





<http://www.campbell.army.mil/Soldiers/Pages/Newcomers.aspx>

By Mary Young, ACS
Senior Relocation Specialist

The mission of the Army Community Service (ACS) Relocation Readiness Program is to minimize the stress of relocation by offering information, skills and resources to new Soldiers, DOD Civilians and Families arriving Fort Campbell.

In-bound Services provided by ACS Relocation Readiness Program

Automated Welcome Packet

“Plan My Move” is an automated information system designed to provide relocation information on all military installations. Information contained in “Plan My Move” are: education, employment, housing, relocation services, support services, medical and dental. Military OneSource also provides the service at www.planmymove.militaryonesource.mil.

Welcome Center

The ACS Welcome Center is located at 2601 Indiana Avenue. Hours of Operation are Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fort Campbell maps, local area maps and directories are available at no cost. MWR activities are available to all Military and Families living on and off post.

Soldier and Family Newcomers' Orientation

The “Soldier & Family Newcomers' Orientation” is an interactive Family Orientation to welcome and inform newly

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Moving Made Easy

arrived Soldiers, DOD Civilians and Family Members of resources available at Fort Campbell. The Newcomers Orientation is held every Thursday at the ACS Family Resource Center (FRC) from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Orientation is mandatory for all Soldiers arriving to Fort Campbell and Family Members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Representatives from several agencies are present to provide important information for “Newcomers.” Agencies present:

Army Community Service (ACS), Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), Chaplains, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS), American Red Cross, Family Housing On/Off Post, Education Center, School Liaison Officers, Child & Youth Services, Legal Assistance, Blanchfield Army Community Hospital, TRICARE, Civilian Personnel Office, ACS Employment office. Continental breakfast and Sponsored (Luigi's Pizza) lunch are provided. Limited on-site childcare is available.

Lending Closet

The Lending Closet has a wide variety of basic household items that are available to loan to all incoming personnel for up to 30 days. A copy of PCS orders and ID card is required to borrow items. Upon request extensions for 30 days are given. The Lending Closet is open Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Spouse to Spouse Sponsorship Program

The ACS Spouse to Spouse Sponsorship program will connect new spouses with information and resources before they arrive to Fort Campbell. Sponsorship will be provided to all incoming spouses upon request. The sponsorship program will provide personalized connection with a spouse currently at Fort Campbell; it will help eliminate some of the stress and make it a smooth transition.

Additionally, the new spouse will have already established a friendship with the spouse at Fort Campbell who has knowledge of the area and resources available.

There are many in-bound services provided by ACS Relocation Readiness Specialists. Visit us at www.campbell.armymwr.co, www.campbell.army.mil/myfortcampbell/newcomers, <https://www.facebook.com/FortCampbellACS> or call Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for assistance. If you seek assistance prior to arriving Fort Campbell, you can email us at ftcampbellacsrelocation@gmail.com.

“Wheels Down: It’s Stroller Walking Time”

By William Corlew, III ACS
Senior Relocation Specialist



Summer is officially here. The summer season usually signals warmer weather, more people wearing light cotton or linen garments, as well as an increase in outdoor activity (cook-outs, picnics, etc.). Yes, in the summer, it is acceptable to wear sandals and sweat.

In fact, during summertime it’s common for people to huddle around the barbeque grill, flock to the nearest watering hole, greenway, or park, just as much as people retreat to air conditioned movie theaters and shopping malls.

Nonetheless, the summer season is truly a time of the year when outdoor activity increases and binge-television-watching decreases.

Your Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is a premier source for creative and exciting ways to enjoy the outdoors while improving overall health, well-being, and forging new friendships without spending one cent.

FAP will conduct the Stroller Walk, Friday, July 20, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 am at the Greenway near Shaw Physical Fitness Center, 7979 California



Road (near Gate 10).

Soldiers typically use the phrase “Wheels up” to describe the start of a movement; therefore, at the Stroller Walk, parents are encouraged to bring their children with strollers for this “Wheels Down” affair. Just don’t forget to wear comfortable clothes and your favorite sneakers.

The primary purpose of the Stroller Walk is for Fort Campbell Families to gain information on local resources as well as build new relationships and welcome others to our community.

The walk route is approximately 1.5 miles at your own pace; so come on out and get a great workout. This event is free and available for everyone; for more information please contact FAP at 270-412-5500.





The ACS Connection newsletter is a quarterly publication of Army Community Service and is intended to inform the Fort Campbell Community.

It is authorized for members of the U.S. Army and does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Dept. of the Army. Pub UAW AR 215-1.

Publisher Karen R. Milner, ACS Chief

Editor Kevin Smith Sr., ACS Outreach Program Coordinator

Suggestions or comments are always welcome.

Send correspondence to: Army Community Service 2601 Indiana Avenue, Fort Campbell, KY 42223 or email: acsoutreach@fortcampbellmwr.com

Dates and times published are subject to change, please call respective programs for date and time of events.

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Army Community Service provides services to our Military Families all year round. The following programs are available to address the needs of the Fort Campbell community.

In the main Army Community Service building at 2601 Indiana Avenue, you will find:

Information & Referral	270-798-9322
Employment Readiness Program (ERP)	270-798-4412
Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)	270-798-2727
Family Advocacy Program (FAP)	270-412-5500
Financial Readiness Program (FRP)	270-798-5518
Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)	270-205-1917
Outreach Program	270-798-2062
Relocation Readiness Program	270-798-6313
Resilience Training (RT)	270-798-2062/956-2934
Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Prevention (SHARP)	270-798-6383

In the Family Resource Center (FRC) at 1501 William C. Lee Road, you will find:

Information & Referral	270-956-2935
ACS Volunteer Program	270-798-2063
Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)	270-956-2934
Army Family Team Building (AFTB)	270-798-4800
Army Volunteer Corps (AVC)	270-956-2934
Mobilization/Deployment (Mob/Dep)	270-798-3849

At 2433 Indiana Avenue, you will find:

Soldier & Family Assistance Center (SFAC)	270-412-6000
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At 5001 Screaming Eagle Drive, you will find:

Survivor Outreach Services (SOS)	270-798-0272/0277
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