



THE DISPATCH

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COLORADO DEPT. OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Supporting the CONG through community partnerships

Parker White, DMVA Public Information Officer & Legislative Liaison

Joining Community Forces (JCF) is a program designed to connect military and veteran families with resources in their local communities. The program, established in Colorado in 2006, has been successful in providing support and assistance to military families in the state.

Housed in the brand new J9 Directorate. The JCF program in Colorado is a partnership between the Colorado National Guard and the greater Colorado community. The program is designed to provide military families with access to a variety of resources, including mental health services, financial assistance, employment opportunities, and education and training programs.

One of the main benefits of JCF is the ability to connect with other military families in the community. Military families often face unique challenges, such as frequent relocations, deployments, and transitions. JCF provides a support network for military families, allowing them to connect with others who understand their experiences and can offer guidance and support.

JCF also provides access to a wide range of resources and services that can help military families navigate the challenges they face. This includes mental health services, which are crucial for addressing issues such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression. JCF can connect military families with mental health professionals who specialize in working with military members and their families.

Financial assistance is another important benefit of JCF. Many military families struggle to make ends meet, especially during times of deployment or transition. JCF can provide financial assistance for things like rent, utilities, and food, as well as help with financial planning and budgeting.



JOINING COMMUNITY FORCES
AN ENTITY OF THE CONG FAMILY PROGRAM OFFICE

The program also has partnerships with local businesses and organizations, which can help connect military spouses and veterans with job opportunities. Additionally, JCF can provide information and resources on education and training programs, including scholarships and tuition assistance.

The JCF program in Colorado is unique in that it is a partnership between the military and civilian communities. This collaboration allows for a more comprehensive approach to supporting military families and brings together resources and services from a variety of organizations, including government agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses.

JCF has been successful in providing support and assistance to military families and has assisted over 25,000 military and veteran families since its inception in 2006. The program has also received recognition from the National Guard Bureau, which has highlighted JCF as a model program for supporting military families.

Overall JCF provides numerous benefits for military families. If you are a military member, veteran, or family member in Colorado, please look into JCF to access these valuable benefits and resources. You can learn more about the program and find local resources by visiting the JCF website at <https://coloradojcf.org/>.

Check Page 3 for a new JFHQ Yoga Class, Hails and Farewells, and Job Openings!

Supporting the mission: How state employees support the CONG

Parker White, DMVA Public Information Officer & Legislative Liaison

The Colorado National Guard plays a critical role in serving and protecting the state and country. However, they cannot do it alone. The Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) provides critical support to the Colorado National Guard (CONG) to ensure they are ready and able to fulfill their mission.

The DMVA oversees the CONG, as well as other state programs and services for military members, veterans, and their families. DMVA state employees are responsible for providing administrative, logistical, and even operational support to the CONG.

One of the primary ways that state employees of the DMVA support the National Guard is by providing administrative support. This includes managing personnel records, coordinating training and deployments, and providing support to military families.

State employees of the DMVA work closely with CONG leadership to ensure that the Guard has the resources and support they need to carry out their mission.

The human resources professionals at JFHQ work tirelessly to process paychecks for servicemembers on State Active Duty (SAD). In addition, state employees under the new J9 play a critical role in supporting CONG servicemembers and their families when going through mental hardships.

Logistical support is another critical area where state employees of the DMVA provide support to the CONG. This includes managing facilities, equipment, and supplies. State employees are responsible for maintaining and repairing facilities and equipment to ensure that Guardsmen and women have what they need to carry out their mission.

At nearly every armory and CONG facility, there are DMVA state employees supporting and enabling servicemembers to do their jobs.

From deploying overseas to support the warfighting mission to activating for natural disasters at home, the servicemembers of the CONG could not do their jobs without the support of the state employees behind the scenes.

Without the backing of state employees, servicemembers would lack efficient pay for SAD, integrated resources for mental health, and workplaces that were well maintained and sanitary.

The work each and every one of you do as state employees is important to executing both the Governor's missions and the National Defense Strategy.

While each part may seem small, when put together, the support provided by the DMVA forms an integral part of the Colorado National Guard's ability to remain..." always ready, always there."



The support provided by the DMVA was vital to the Colorado National Guard's ability to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic. By providing administrative support to Soldiers and Airmen, the DMVA enabled the CONG to respond when our communities needed them most.

Yoga Classes Begin in April!



Comeback Yoga Classes are back at the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs!

**EVERY THURSDAY AT 12:00
STARTING APRIL 6TH!**
the Drill Floor of the
JFHQ One-Story

All abilities welcome!
Wear comfortable clothes.

WHY YOGA?

Increase Strength & Balance
Relieve Stress & Back Pain
Sleep Better

WHY COMEBACK YOGA?

Our classes are specifically designed to support veterans, active military, and DMVA employees. *This includes awareness of seen and unseen injuries.*

For questions email Nick Severn
nicholas.severn@dmva.state.co.us
or call ext. 1541

Hails and Farewells

The DMVA both welcomes and says goodbye to employees each month. Please see below to give warm welcomes to new faces and best wishes to those moving on in their careers!

Hails:

Cathy Deane – HR Specialist II

Donald Schroeder – Emergency Prep and Communications Specialist IV

Shad Riley – Air Traffic Controller II

Lisa Cooley – Social Service Specialist IV

Farewells:

Joanne Iglesias – Administrator III

Diana Debor – Admin Assistant II

Michael White – C. E. Project Manager I

Job Listings

The DMVA currently has multiple job openings, and we are always looking for amazing people to join our family.

See below for current openings:

-Administrative Assistant

Arapahoe County, CO

-Administrative Assistant – Veterans Affairs

Lakewood, CO

-Airfield and Facility Ground Maintenance

-Arapahoe County, CO

-Civil Engineering Project Manager

Arapahoe County, CO

-Facility Craftsman

Fort Lupton, CO

-Facility Craftsman

Fort Carson, CO

-Facility Tradesman

Watkins, CO

-Heavy Equipment Shop Mechanic II

Arapahoe County, CO

-Licensed Electrician

Arapahoe County, CO

-Pipe Mechanic

Arapahoe County, CO

-State Veterans Service Officer Supervisor

Statewide, CO

Past Events

Division of Veteran Affairs:

-The Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs met on the 3rd of March to discuss ongoing initiatives surrounding the service of Veterans in Colorado.

Civil Air Patrol:

- CAP Cadets presented the colors in both chamber of the Colorado General Assembly at the Colorado State Capitol, Denver, Feb. 16.

- A Search and Rescue Exercise took place outside Boulder, Feb. 18-19. Aircrews from across the state operated out of their home airports and performed practice sorties primarily involving aerial photography of locations during simulated disaster situations.

CO National Guard:

- The Adjutant General of Colorado Brigadier General Laura Clellan and senior staff members celebrated their 30-year partnership with Slovenia in Slovenia, March 6-11. They met with civilian and military officials about the history and future of the State Partnership Program. Their group also included the Lt. Governor of Colorado Dianne Primavera and members of her staff.

Upcoming Events

Division of Veteran Affairs:

-Leadership of the Division of Veterans Affairs will meet with the Veterans Caucus in the State Legislature on Monday, March 20.

Civil Air Patrol:

-CAP Division Administrator and Colorado Wing ES Officer Lt Col Hank Eng will attend the quarterly meeting of the Colorado Volunteers Active in Disaster in Aurora, March 16.

CO National Guard:

- The COARNG and COANG are participating in the Jordan Shield Exercise, in Jordan, March 5-17. Jordan Shield is a Jordanian-led, Defense Threat Reduction Agency/CONG-facilitated national-level exercise including a response to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events.

Colorado Innovation Conference



The Colorado Innovation Conference, running from May 2, 2023, through May 4, 2023, aims to inspire and increase State employees' ability and willingness to share and try bold new ways of doing their work.

May 2-4 will be the first ever Colorado Innovation Conference and registration is open on their site. The goal of this conference is to inspire, provide tools, and educate state employees about innovation, project management and change management.

<https://sites.google.com/state.co.us/coloradoinnovationconference/home?authuser=0&pli=1>

