



**Virginia  
Cooperative  
Extension**

Virginia Tech  
Virginia State University  
www.ext.vt.edu




# PURPLE UP! for military kids

Friday, April 21, 2017

**April, Month of the Military Child** provides an opportunity to recognize and honor our youngest heroes, military children. These youth face many challenges that are unique to their situation, such as having a parent deployed, frequent moves, new schools, and leaving friends. Their ability to adapt to these challenges deserves our respect. Virginia is home to more than 73,000 children whose parents serve in the military.

The 4-H program of Virginia Cooperative Extension, invites everyone across the state of Virginia to join us for the 7th annual **Purple Up! for Military Kids** celebration **by wearing purple on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**. This is a very visible way to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. Purple symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green, Marine red, and Coast Guard, Navy and Air Force blue.

**Help us turn Virginia purple on April 21<sup>st</sup>!** Be creative....the goal is for military youth to see they have the support of their community. Plan an event for military families. Need some ideas to get you started?

- Ask your local, regional, state, and federal officials to participate
- Invite news and media outlets to feature a story about **Purple Up! for Military Kids**
- Involve schools, sports teams, youth organizations, clubs, and afterschool programs
- Engage fraternal organizations, social clubs, and Rotary groups
- Invite co-workers, members of your spiritual community, exercise class, or golf league to show their support for Virginia military youth
- Ask stores and restaurants to put a **Purple Up!** flyer in their business window
- Suggest companies and businesses ask their employees to wear purple

**Please email us your Purple Up! photos to post on the Virginia 4-H Military Club website where military youth and families will see them! Groups must confirm that a media release is in their file for individuals featured in photos.**

**Virginia Tech – State 4-H Office, 4-H Military Clubs, Virginia Cooperative Extension**  
107 Hutcheson Hall (0419), Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

**For more information and to email photos, contact: Louetta Jones, 4-H Military Club Director**  
Email: lojones@vt.edu • Phone: 804-712-8467

**Explore opportunities for military youth: [www.virginia4-hmilitaryclubs.org](http://www.virginia4-hmilitaryclubs.org)**

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