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*Media: [captions and information for photos]*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Georgia 4-H Celebrates Month of the Military Child**

In the State of Georgia military youth live in every county. At least nine counties in Georgia have 1,000- 11,100 military youth. Georgia is home to nine installations, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Fort Gordon, Robins Air Force Base, Fort Benning, Hunter Army Airfield, Fort Stewart, Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base, Moody Air Force Base, and the Marine Corps Logistics Base.

Supporting our military members means supporting their families too. According to *the 2018 Demographic Report: Profile of the Military Community* 39% of service members have children. Of those service members, 32% of children are ages 6 to 11, and 24% of children are aged 12 to 18. In fact, there are over 1,000,000 Active-Duty military-dependent children and 690,000 Reserve Component military-dependent children affiliated with the US Armed Forces. Georgia is one of the top five states with the largest military populations. Communities across Georgia play a role in supporting service men and women. The University of Georgia Extension Georgia 4-H is proud to support military families across the state through local 4-H programs, state 4-H events, grant funded military camping opportunities, the Georgia 4-H Military Partnership, and more!

April is the Month of the Military Child. It is a time as a nation to pause, to say thank to our youngest military members, the youth. Military-dependent children serve our country by the sacrifices they experience from their parent(s) service. Throughout April, please join Georgia 4-H, the Department of Defense, and communities across the country in celebrating the Month of the Military Child.

There are a lot of ways we can collectively or individually celebrate military children. During the Month of April [county name] will highlight military children in the following ways [provide event, activity ideas, dates of military focused activities]. [county name] is proud to support military children all year long through our various activities open to the entire public such as Consumer Judging, County Council, Project Achievement, Archery, and more! Additionally, please join us in recognizing our youngest heroes on April 15th by wearing purple. Let us create a purple wave across [county name] and the state to show our visible support of military-dependent youth who serve alongside their parents.

For more information, visit georgia4h.org or contact your local [county name] Extension office at [county office number].To learn more about the 4-H Military Partnership, visit <https://georgia4h.org/programs/focus-areas/citizenship/military-programs/>