Once again, JCPenney cares has signed up to support children of active duty junior enlisted soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines, by sponsoring the Armed Services YMCA’s Operation Hero program for 2016. JCPenney cares supports local and national nonprofit organizations that provide enrichment opportunities outside of school. Operation Hero is an onsite after-school program, which
focuses on character development and skill building within military children who have been identified by school personnel and parents exhibiting low self-esteem, or difficulty adjusting both academically and socially in the school environment. Curriculum is designed to help children handle the challenges of military life, provide tools to help them succeed in school, and help develop a positive self-image while improving social and communication skills.

PenFed and Armed Services YMCA Partner to Make Military Life Easier

Credit union continues its strong support of the ASYMCA

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Feb. 17, 2016—PenFed Credit Union reached the $300,000 mark in charitable contributions to the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) with its most recent donation of $75,000.

The ASYMCA’s stated mission of Make Military Life Easier, takes aim at reducing the inherent stress military service places on those in uniform. The organization focuses its main effort where it is most needed—on entry-level enlisted personnel and their families. The ASYMCA’s tailored programs are designed to fill gaps in official government services, help young families cope with realities of military life and promote strong, resilient youth. PenFed began its partnership with ASYMCA in 2011.

James Schenck, president and CEO of PenFed said, “Our partnership with the ASYMCA reflects the DNA of PenFed Credit Union. Serving our nation’s defenders and those who
support them is who we are as an organization.”

“I’m also excited about working with the ASYMCA to connect service members and families in need with the PenFed Foundation, our charitable arm,” said Schenck.

Retired Navy Vice Adm. and ASYMCA President and CEO Bill French accepted the donation from PenFed and expressed excitement about the continued partnership with the credit union.

“I am very happy to receive this support from PenFed,” said French. “They are great partners and we hope they will continue to support our military men and women, and their families, for years to come.”

GEICO sponsors 2016 national art, essay contest

Since its beginnings, GEICO has generously been the key sponsor of the Armed Services YMCA’s Art and Essay Contest. This year is no different. In addition to the normal awards provided by GEICO’s generous sponsorship, this year’s art work will be displayed at the Nov. 4 Angels of the Battlefield Awards Gala.

CONTEST DETAILS AND INFORMATION

The annual Armed Services YMCA Art & Essay Contest allows children to express their love, appreciation and admiration for their military heroes and serves to remind us of the sacrifices our men and women in uniform, and their families, make each day for our country. Entries for the art contest depict the theme, “My Military Family.”

The contest is officially launched every November and is open to all eligible children of U.S. active duty or retired service members.
Winners of both the art and essay contests have their winning entries displayed at 34 Armed Services YMCA Branches and affiliate locations, as well as military bases worldwide during Military Family Month each November.

The 10th Annual Angels of the Battlefield Awards Gala, will be hosted at the Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City, Arlington, Va. on Friday, 4 Nov. Get ready to honor the individual men and women on the front lines who are saving lives and have demonstrated extraordinary courage. We will share more info later! It’s not too early to become a sponsor! Click here for more information: Angels of the Battlefield Awards Gala

DOD joins with Armed Services YMCA to extend Military Outreach Initiative

WASHINGTON, February 5, 2016 — The Defense Department recently announced a one-year extension to the Armed Services YMCA Military Outreach Initiative, DoD officials said today.

The contract with the Armed Services YMCA was set to expire in March 2016 and will now continue until March 16, 2017.

“We are thrilled our service members and military families will continue to have this important resource for another year,” said Rosemary Williams, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy.
“The Department of Defense is steadfast in its commitment to support all military service members and their families, in particular to those who serve in geographically dispersed assignments,” she added.

Click here for the full story.

**Want to help junior enlisted service members and their families?**

Donate to Armed Services YMCA now

The Armed Services YMCA exists to make military life easier for junior enlisted military personnel and their families. We have 34 branches and affiliates, supporting 59 of our Nation’s largest military installations across the country. Offering low and no cost programming, the ASYMCA serves more than 500,000 troops and family members each year with the help of more than 10,000 volunteers.

Help Amazon donate to the Armed Services YMCA

AmazonSmile – You shop. Amazon gives.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates to your favorite charitable organization. You can select Armed Services YMCA to receive Amazon's donation from your purchase.

About AmazonSmile

Consider a recurring donation

**Donate your car, truck, or plane!**

You can help our nation’s services members and their families by donating your car, truck, boat, motorcycle or RV to the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA). The proceeds from the sale will help us to

**Armed Services YMCA’s Recurring Gift Program**

The Armed Services YMCA’s recurring gift program allows you to increase your annual impact footprint through smaller monthly or quarterly installments. A recurring gift is an ongoing, specific gift amount determined by you the donor that
continue providing programs and services across the country.

**How it Works**
Our vehicle donation program is easy:

- Fill out the [vehicle donation form](#) online.
- A service representative from CARS (Charitable Adult Rides and Services Inc.) will contact you to facilitate the donation process.
- CARS will send you an IRS tax receipt for your records.

If you prefer to contact CARS by phone, please call 855-YMCA-CAR or 855-962-2227 and one of their representatives will help you with your donation.

is charged monthly or quarterly to your credit card. You don’t have to remember to write and send a check. [Click here for details](#).