



**For Immediate Release**

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**YMCA of Southern Nevada Extends Memberships to Military Families and Personnel**  
*Nearly 500 families served since program began locally last year*

**Las Vegas** – As part of the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) and Department of Defense (DoD) Outreach Initiative, the YMCA of Southern Nevada offers free memberships to eligible military families and personnel who may not have access to a nearby military facility. Membership fees are underwritten by the DoD and administered through Military OneSource, a referral service for military families.

The YMCA of Southern Nevada, which began participating in the initiative in fall 2008, has served nearly 500 military families. YMCA memberships provide access to youth development, family strengthening and health and well-being programs. YMCA of the USA, the national resource office for America's 2,686 YMCAs, has helped launch the initiative at YMCAs across the country.

"We've had tremendous participation from families of deployed military members since introducing the program at our three local YMCAs last year," said Mike Lubbe, President and CEO, YMCA of Southern Nevada. "The numbers speak to the need that exists in our community, and we remain committed to welcoming more military families and providing services to those who are so deserving of our support."

Eligible military families participating in the initiative are eligible for YMCA memberships based on participation requirements. Those qualified to participate include:

- All interested families of joint deployed National Guard and Reserves of all military branches;
- Active duty independent duty station personnel and their families; and
- Relocated spouses and family members of deployed active duty personnel.

To further support military families, the YMCA of Southern Nevada hosts free monthly social events for YMCA military members at the City of Las Vegas Centennial Hills Community Center, operated by the YMCA, 6601 N. Buffalo Drive. More information is available by calling (702) 476-6744.

The ASYMCA-DoD Outreach Initiative responds to a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which requires the Secretary of Defense to develop a plan to support military family readiness and to ensure that military family readiness programs and activities are available to all deployed National Guard and Reserve families, and some active duty families in certain special categories.

For more information about the initiative, visit [www.asymca.org](http://www.asymca.org). Contact Military OneSource at [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) or 1-800-342-9647 to confirm eligibility and receive an eligibility form.

**About the YMCA of Southern Nevada**

The YMCA of Southern Nevada has been setting the pace for family fitness and recreation in the Las Vegas Valley since 1944. A nonprofit organization led by a volunteer board of directors, the YMCA is dedicated to building strong kids, strong families and strong communities through aquatic, health and fitness, youth and family, and sporting programs for individuals of every age and fitness level. Three branches are conveniently located throughout the Las Vegas Valley: the Bill & Lillie Heinrich YMCA, 4141 Meadows Lane; the City of Las Vegas Durango Hills Community Center, operated by the YMCA, 3521 N. Durango Dr. and the City of Las Vegas Centennial Hills Community Center, operated by the YMCA, 6601 N. Buffalo Dr. No one is turned away because of an inability to pay. For more information, call (702) 877-9622 or visit [www.lasvegasyymca.org](http://www.lasvegasyymca.org).

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