



National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
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# *Military and Veteran Family Support*

28 September 2011

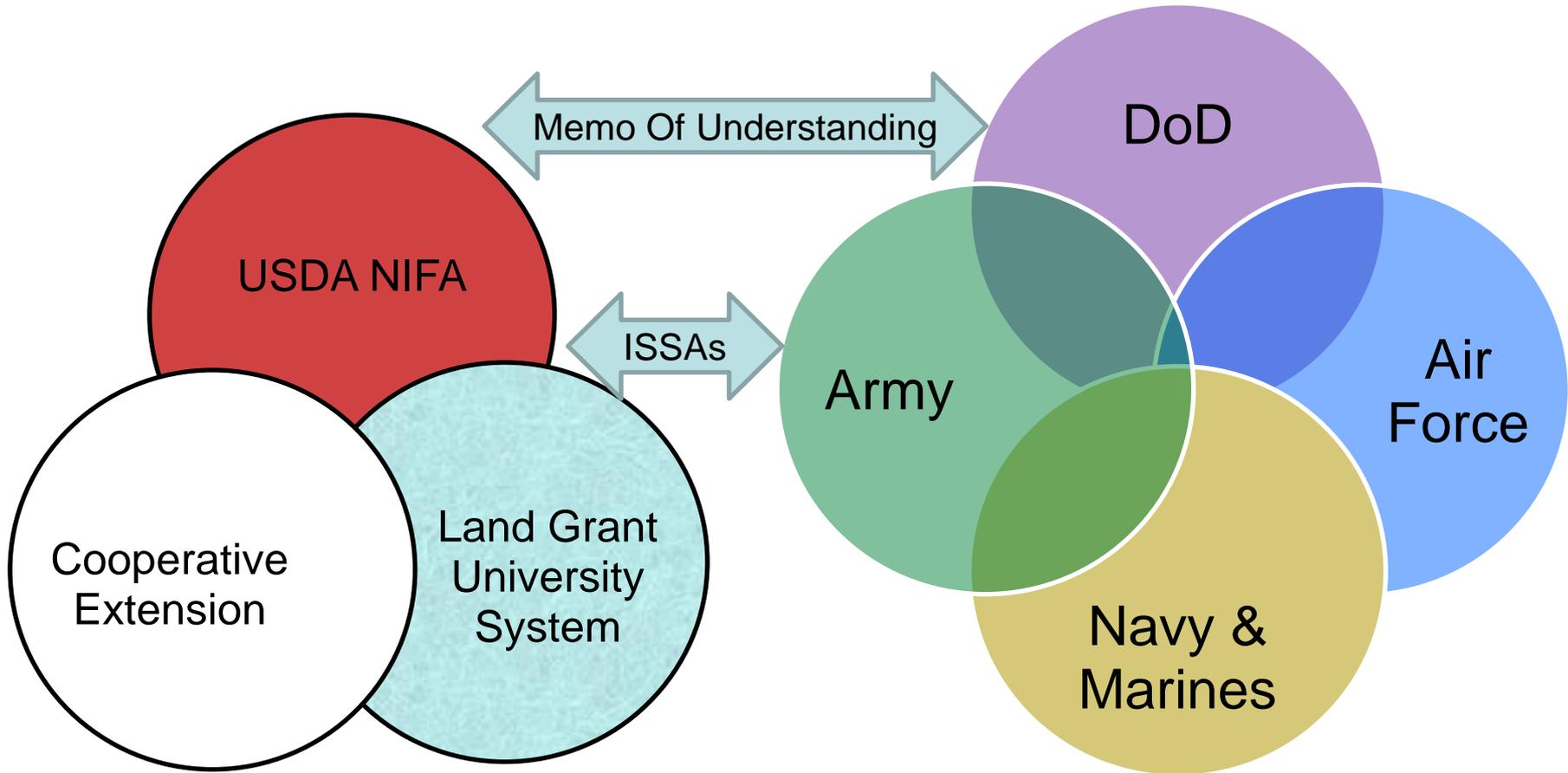




# Presenters

- Brent Elrod, National Program Leader  
Military and Veteran's Programs  
USDA NIFA
- Sarah Baughman  
Military Families Partnership  
eXtension Initiative

# The NIFA Extension Military Partnership



# Background

- Over 2 decades of partnering,
  - USDA NIFA (formerly CSREES)
  - Military Services
  - Office of the Secretary of Defense, &
  - Land Grant Universities (LGUs) and Cooperative Extension



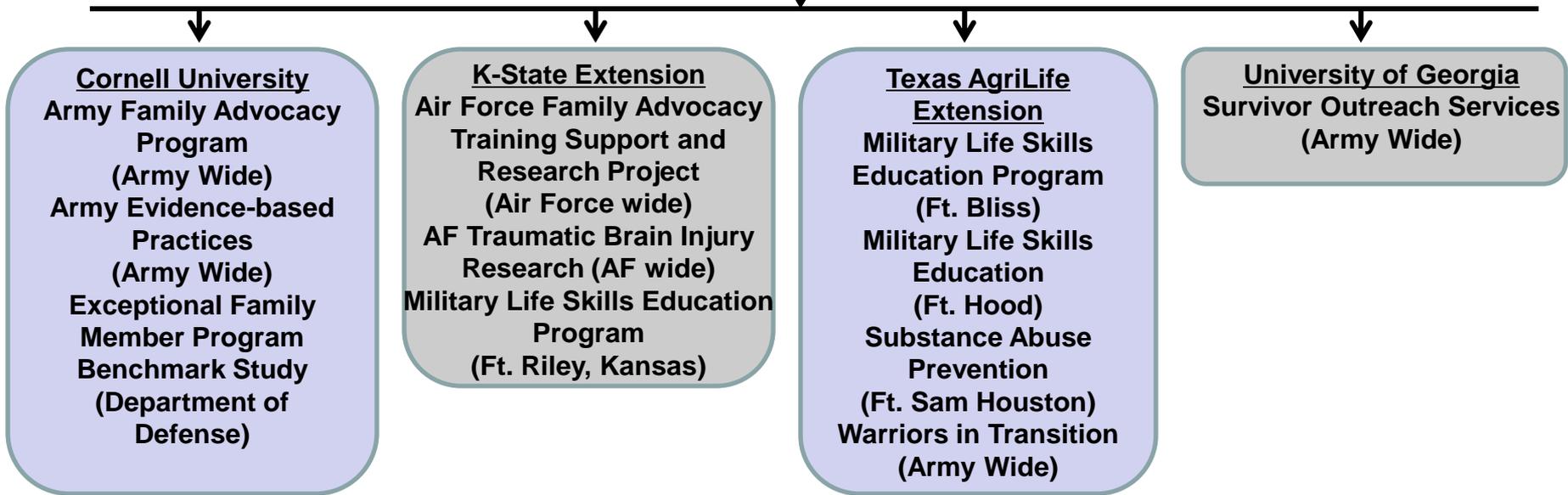
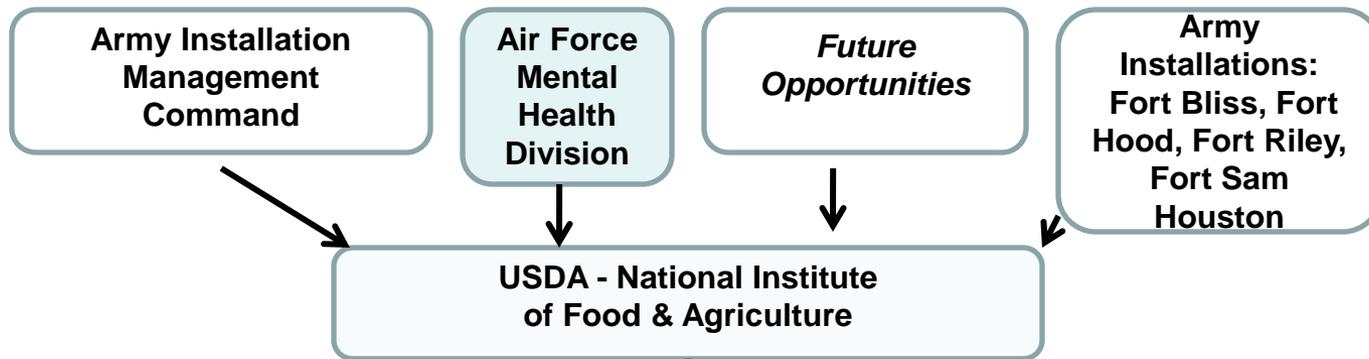
have entered into Interagency Service Support Agreements (ISSAs) to provide military Family and Consumer Sciences support, program evaluation, and research

# Military Family & Consumer Sciences research and program examples

- Implementation and outcome evaluation studies
- Family Maltreatment Research
- Family Advocacy Program
- New Parent Support Program
- Substance Abuse Program
- Financial Readiness Program
- Exceptional Family Member Program
- Mobilization and Deployment
- Relocation Assistance Program
- Employment Readiness Program
- Army Family Action Program
- Warriors in Transition (Caregiver Assessments)
- Survivor Outreach Services



# Military Family and Consumer Science Initiatives



# 4-H Military Partnership Today



Army Child Youth & School Services

Air Force Airmen & Family Services

Navy Child & Youth Programs

NIFA – Children, Youth & Families at Risk

USDA - National Institute of Food & Agriculture

4-H/Army Youth Development Project

4-H Air Force Partnership

4-H Navy Partnership

DoD Child Youth Deployment Support

Auburn University

Kansas State University

Kansas State University

Kansas State University

Washington State University

University of Georgia

University of Maryland

Virginia Tech

Kansas State University

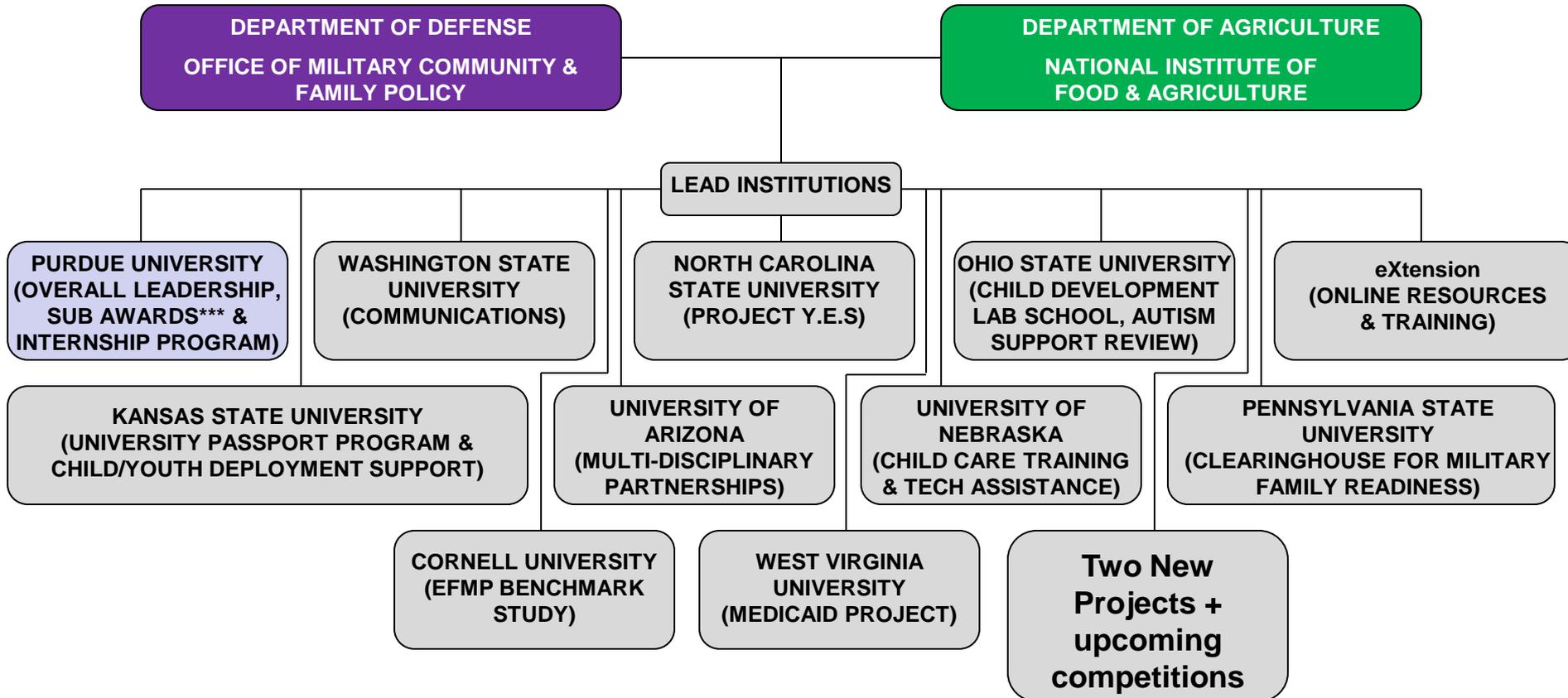
## Kansas State University

KSU serves as the overall lead University in the 4-H Military Partnerships. KSU awarding funding to 52 State LGU's that provide direct programming and support for military children/youth through the Military 4-H Clubs and Operation: Military Kids grants.

**Military 4-H Club Grants:** Funding for these grants is provided by Army, Navy, Air Force and NIFA (CYFAR). These grants serve to establish 4-H clubs on military installations worldwide and provide 4-H opportunities to geographically dispersed military children/youth. In 2010, 47 states, DC & Guam applied for and received grants.

**Operation: Military Kids Grants:** OMK grants are funded by Army and serve all military children/youth who experience a loved one being deployed. These grants focus on building local support networks where these families live. In 2010, 49 states and DC applied for OMK grants.

# MILITARY/EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP



\*\*\* SUB-AWARDS THROUGH PURDUE UNIVERSITY INCLUDE PROJECTS FOCUSED ON ADVENTURE CAMPS (11 STATES AND GERMANY), FITNESS, NUTRITION, GARDENING, OUT OF SCHOOL, WORK LIFE SKILLS, PROGRAM EVALUATION, AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT



# Military Family Readiness System (MFRS) RFA

- Develop a high quality, DoD-standard, joint-Service training resource to prepare Family Center/Family Readiness program staff to implement individual programs within the context of a social service delivery system model.
- \$1,818,182 available for one award



# **Second Language & Culture Exposure for Children and Youth (SLCECY) RFA**

- Promote bold and innovative ideas for enhancing language and cultural capabilities within the Department of Defense Child & Youth programs.
- \$1,818,182 available for one award

# Military Families Learning Network



# Military Families Learning Network



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[twitter.com/milfamln](https://twitter.com/milfamln)

Professional  
development webinars  
[learn.extension.org](https://learn.extension.org)

Blogs  
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## Military Families

Here are some of our featured articles and activities...



### Military Family Caregiving

Military Family Caregiving focuses on improving the lives of wounded warrior caregivers through the use of educational materials and online resources.

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March 01, 2011

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February 11, 2011

[Is it normal for the two year olds in my child care to say "no" a lot?](#)

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[Military Families](#) community

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September 13, 2011

[Veterans' Co-ops Build Homes Fit for Heroes](#)

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[USDA Scientist Credits 4-H for Building Kids' Interest in Science](#)

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Serving military family service professionals



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## Flip the Switch on the Power of Online Networks

When you turn on a light, do you think about where the electricity comes from or are you just thankful you can see?

The electricity that powers your light is delivered through a vast and complex network of power plants, substations, transmission grids, and distribution lines. The electricity running through your home or workplace could have been generated at a nearby plant or at a wind farm a thousand miles away. Most of us don't care where the power comes from. We care only that it is there, a steady stream of electrons waiting to light up our homes and businesses. All we have to do is flip the switch.

Now imagine using a complex network like the power grid to deliver information, knowledge, learning; a stream of new ideas waiting to light up your mind. That network exists. We called it the Internet, then the World Wide Web, Web 2.0, and social media. It's a vast and complex digital network that gives anyone with a connection the power to transfer information at great speed and to create connections across great distances.

Every day online networks are filled with thoughts, experiences, ideas, and information on a myriad of topics, some mundane or profane and some significant or even sacred. If you want to tap into the stream, all you need to do is flip the switch.



The Electricity Infrastructure Operations Center - photo courtesy Pacific Northwest National Laboratory



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# **Military Families Learning Network**

*What's in it for me?*

- Increase your network literacy
- Engage with new audiences
- Focus on engagement rather than content
- Collaborate with colleagues from around the country and across disciplines



# Military Families Learning Network

Do we know about your Extension military family programs?

- <http://collaborate.extension.org/mediawiki/files/8/8d/ESCanReportMay2011.pdf>
- <http://bit.ly/MFEScan>
- <http://bit.ly/MilFamMap>



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<http://www.extension.org/people/communities/226>

Joining Forces

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces/>

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