

Yellow Ribbon Community Key Areas and requirements...

City Leadership:

- Committed support of Yellow Ribbon Network
- Participation in Yellow Ribbon Steering Committee annual reviews, events and activities
- Creation of Crisis Intervention and Wellness Process

Yellow Ribbon Steering Committee:

- Creation of Committee with representation from all key community areas
- Regular meetings with goals and objectives to meet community needs
- Commitment to identify and support military families
- Continuous education on military support issues
- Commitment to “Welcome Home” all Servicemembers

Public Safety/Judicial:

- Defined, sustainable and ongoing training program for all public safety personnel
- Ongoing process to respond to military family issues

Faith Based Organizations:

- Continuous and active partnership with the Yellow Ribbon Network

Veteran Organizations:

- Recognition events in partnership with the Steering Committee
- Develop process for identifying Servicemembers in the community

Businesses/Employers:

- Demonstrated support of Servicemember and military family employees
- Full support of Servicemembers, military families and other employers within local community

Social Service/Medical Providers:

- Commitment to the well-being of Servicemembers and their families by increasing availability of medical and behavioral health providers who accept Tricare

Educators and Youth Providers:

- Plan to identify military families within the school district
- Full support of Servicemembers and military families
- Defined, sustainable and ongoing training/awareness program for all school personnel



Yellow Ribbon Community Mission Statement

In continuing Minnesota's proud history of supporting our nation's military, the Yellow Ribbon Network is a diverse group of citizens and community leaders uniting key areas within local communities to leverage existing support activities, build awareness and take action to recognize and support Servicemembers and military families.



Beyond the Yellow Ribbon is united to bring Servicemembers and their families all the way home.

Contact the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Team
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Yellow Ribbon Communities



Beyond the Yellow Ribbon



Ask a Servicemember what he or she needs while on deployment and he or she will tell you, "Take care of my family."

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon is a comprehensive program that creates awareness for the purpose of connecting Servicemembers and their families with community support, training, services and resources.

We do this by:

1. Creating awareness through the Yellow Ribbon Community Campaign and synchronizing sustainable community support networks.
2. Connecting and coordinating organizations, agencies, and companies to provide resources and support to Servicemembers and their families.
3. Delivering a series of formal Yellow Ribbon Training events to Servicemembers and their families before, during and after deployment.
4. Providing an opportunity for Minnesotans to support Servicemembers and their families.

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Yellow Ribbon Community History

Former Governor Tim Pawlenty proclaimed Farmington as Minnesota's first Yellow Ribbon City in December 2008. With the guidance of Beyond the Yellow Ribbon's Deployment Cycle Support Team, cities, counties and corporations across the state are developing action plans and organizing groups to support military families. Each follows a similar path to creating a Yellow Ribbon Network and being proclaimed "Yellow Ribbon" by the Governor.



What is a Yellow Ribbon Community?

A Yellow Ribbon Community unites all areas within a community to create a comprehensive network that connects and coordinates agencies, organizations, resources and employers for the purpose of proactively supporting Servicemembers and military families.

Why Become a Yellow Ribbon?

Since 9/11, thousands of Minnesotans have served our country. By developing a Yellow Ribbon Network, communities unite to honor and embrace those affected by military deployments. The outward showing of support enables successful transition all the way home. The community's effort transcends the military to any group in need and builds a stronger, more compassionate community.

How to Become a Yellow Ribbon Community?

A local Yellow Ribbon Steering Committee in each community will develop a sustainable Action Plan demonstrating their commitment to Servicemembers and military families. The community will identify and connect leaders in key areas across the community, leverage existing support activities, build awareness throughout the community and take action.

How important is this?

"When my Servicemember was deployed I felt so alone. I was home with the kids and just had to make things work.

But there were days it took everything in me to make it through ... when the toilet was plugged on a Saturday night, or our 2-year-old couldn't be calmed as I tried to shovel the car out of the driveway and get her to daycare on time.

To know someone was willing to support me ... if my community would have been behind me in his absence, it would have made all the difference."

- The spouse of a Minnesota Servicemember

