

List of Targeted Support for Children

Support Service	Description	Young Children	Teenagers	Young Adults
Grief Support				
TAPS Teen Programming	For teens ages 13 to 18, this programming is a safe place for young survivors to express feelings, and share experiences within a virtual environment. Eligible to those teens who have experienced the death of a Military Service related parent or sibling.		X	
TAPS Children's Care Group	Provides an opportunity for children ages 4 to 12 to come together with peers over Zoom and share experiences, increase resources, and build a community of support.	X		
Tuesday's Children Military Initiative	Guides Families of the Fallen beyond grief into next steps towards a lifetime of healing. Our programs provide long-term support enabling widows, children, and families to heal, recover and thrive for a lifetime. This work fills the gap in available long-term healing programs for U.S. Military Families of Fallen. https://www.tuesdayschildren.org/	X	X	X
VA Bereavement Counseling	Offers bereavement support to parents, spouses, and children of active duty, National Guard, or reserve members who die while on military duty. For more information, you may also call 202-461-6530.	X	X	X
National Alliance for Grieving Children (NAGC)	Raises awareness about the needs of children and teens who are grieving a death and provides education and resources for anyone who supports them. For more information, you may also call 866-432-1542.	X	X	
Local Resources	TAPS relies on a large network of strong community partners and can connect you with resources specific to your child's needs. Each resource is verified and actively supports the TAPS mission. Call TAPS military survivor helpline at 800-959-TAPS (8277) or email info@taps.org to connect with grief and trauma resources in your area.	X	X	X
Suicide Loss Support				
TAPS Suicide Prevention & Postvention Team	Addresses the challenge of suicide in the military and across the nation. This team of dedicated professionals can help you decide what and when to share with your children based on your family's specific circumstances. For survivors in need of immediate suicide postvention support, please contact us at 800-959-8277.	X	X	
TAPS How to Talk to Your Children About Suicide Factsheet	https://www.taps.org/globalassets/pdf/resources/how-to-talk-to-children-about-suicide.pdf	X	X	
Mentorship/Leadership Programs				
TAPS Mentor Matching	Offers an opportunity to get your child or teen virtually connected to a military or legacy mentor.	X	X	

Travis Manion Character Matters Mentor	Develop character and leadership skills in young adults. Grounded in the evidence-based field of Positive Psychology, they use a strengths-based approach to develop character traits in the next generation through a combination of informal discussions and activity-based learning. https://www.travismanion.org/our-programs/character-does-matter/		X	X
Spartan Leadership Program	Brings together veterans and families of fallen heroes who are already uniquely positioned to lead. Curriculum is enriched with character-based learning, self-discovery, and experiential leadership development. Participants are challenged to reflect on and develop a deeper understanding and clarity of personal values, passions, purpose, and leadership.		X	X
A Soldier's Child (ASC) Foundation PS23 Program	Psalms 23 is a leadership program with emotional, physical, and spiritual growth for ASC recipients, 18 years of age and older. Our ASC young adults develop leadership skills through team building challenges during our "Off-the-Grid" outdoor adventure excursions, seminars, and conferences. Off-The-Grid attendees are invited back as a PS23 Mentors to our yearly youth camps. PS23 Mentors build on their "Servant Leadership" skills, based on Christian principles and values. https://www.asoldierschild.org/ps23-program			X
Tuesday's Children Youth Mentoring	Encourages and supports mutually beneficial relationships between adult role models and children ages 6-18.	X	X	
Tuesday's Children Leadership Program	Partners with reputable leadership organizations, like Outward Bound, granting children the opportunity to participate in team-building adventures, allowing them to form new friendships while developing leadership skills.		X	
Support Activities				
TAPS Teen Only Coffee House	Provides a safe place for survivors ages 13 to 18 to express feelings, and share experiences within a virtual environment. Eligible to those teens who have experienced the death of a Military Service related parent or sibling.		X	
TAPS Family Nights	Offers a unique and exciting experience for the whole family to bond, learn how to cope, support each other, communicate together, and have fun.	X	X	X
TAPS Activity Booklet	Provides families with an array of activity ideas that create discussion, interaction, and connection around a variety of topics related to grief, coping, and family fun. Activity Booklets are created and made available as downloadable PDFs on a monthly basis.	X	X	
Tuesday's Children Family Programs	Holds family engagement events in various locations throughout the country to enhance resilience by building relationships among Military Families of the Fallen, those impacted by the 9/11 tragedy and recovery efforts. These events are no cost to our families, create positive new traditions, provide program updates and nurture common bonds.	X	X	X
Tuesday's Children Project Common Bond	Brings together young adults, ages 15-21, from around the world who share a 'common bond' — the loss of a family member due to an act of terrorism, violent extremism or US military service. Participants engage in a dialogue of healing and community building, collaborate to promote the dignity of all, and learn conflict negotiation and peacebuilding skills, all to create positive change in their lives and communities.		X	X

A Soldier's Child (ASC) Foundation	Serves children of fallen servicemen and women from all U.S. military branches. ASC acknowledges all active duty and post military service deaths due to service-related injuries or illnesses. This includes suicides from PTSD related deaths. ASC offers love, honor, and hope for children to live a courageous life through yearly birthday celebrations, summer camps, mentorship programs, and facilitating in secondary/college scholarships. https://asoldierschild.org	X	X	X
Snowball Express	Hosts a five-day experience each December for children of the fallen and their surviving parent or guardian. As a therapeutic retreat with a blend of fun and inspiring programs, these families can lean on their peers for support. Also hosts community-driven events for these families all year long, from baseball games, to arts & educational opportunities, to camping trips, these families can deepen friendships right in their hometowns. These events are essential for children and surviving spouses to build bonds with others who can truly understand their loss. https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/snowball-express/	X	X	
Bereavement Camps	Military One Source provides a list of DoD vetted groups that work to provide grieving children with a comfortable place to talk about their feelings and feel understood.	X	X	
Travis Manion Activities at Home	Character Activities at Home, https://travismanionfoundation.force.com/lms/s/character-activities	X		
Financial Services				
A&FRC Personal Financial Readiness	Offers information, education, and personal financial guidance to help individuals and families maintain financial stability and reach financial goals.		X	X
TAPS Young Adults Program – Financial Pillar	Take action to fulfill your financial goals with independence and security. Improve your understanding of financial literacy to empower you to make better decisions.			X
TAPS Online Survivor Benefits Reports	Allows surviving dependents to plan for the future by viewing Survivor Benefits Reports by branch, performing what-if exercises to see how survivor benefits might change, and review related fact sheets. For more information, you may also contact the Family Assistance Support Team at 877-827-2471.			X
Educational / Career Services				
TAPS Education Support Services	Serves as a guide to scholarship information and benefits resources for military survivors. TAPS education support coordinators can help explain benefits, work with you to align resources and education goals, provide talking points to schools, colleges, and universities, and help you go confidently into the next phase of your life.		X	X
TAPS Young Adults Program – Career Guidance Pillar	Take steps to define and gain your work identity. Accelerate your career growth by exploring educational and occupational opportunities.			X
Children of the Fallen Patriots	Provides college scholarships and educational counseling and assists with various living expenses related to college. www.fallenpatriots.org	X	X	X

Tuesday's Children Career Resource Center	Provides educational and career guidance for teens and preteens, college-age adults, as well as adults looking for a career transition. The Career Resource Center provides Career Mentors, who volunteer their time to give career advice and support, in addition to workshops, seminars and career-building opportunities to assist through various stages of career development.	X	X	X
A Soldier's Child (ASC) Foundation	Serves children of fallen servicemen and women from all U.S. military branches. ASC acknowledges all active duty and post military service deaths due to service-related injuries or illnesses. ASC facilitates secondary/college scholarships. https://asoldierschild.org		X	X
Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry (Fry Scholarship)	Provides money for tuition, housing, books and supplies for surviving children and spouses if the parent or spouse was an active-duty service member who died in the line of duty on or after September 11, 2001, you may qualify for this benefit. https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/fry-scholarship/		X	X
Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) program	Provides money to help pay for college or graduate programs, career-training certificate courses and apprenticeships for children or spouse of a Veteran or service member who has died, is captured or missing, or has disabilities. https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/dependents-education-assistance/		X	X
Montgomery GI Bill Death Benefit	The VA will pay a special Montgomery GI Bill death benefit to a designated survivor in the event of the service-connected death of a service member while on active duty or within one year after discharge or release. The deceased must either have been entitled to educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill program or a participant in the program who would have been so entitled but did not meet the high school diploma or length-of-service requirement. https://www.va.gov/SURVIVORS/docs/OSABrochureWebVersion.pdf		X	X
Gold Star Family Fellowship Program	Provides surviving family members an opportunity to work for Congress. These one-year paid fellowships offer eligible surviving family members (parents, children (including step), spouses, or siblings) with a unique experience that may broaden career opportunities. https://cao.house.gov/gold-star			X
AF Families Forever Scholarship	Columbia Southern Education Group offers an online scholarship to a selected family member (spouse, child, sibling, or parent) of a fallen Airman.		X	X
School Liaison Officer (SLO)	SLOs provide information about local schools and scholarship opportunities.		X	X
Military Resources				
Tricare	TRICARE may provide medically necessary coverage of mental health services during times of grief.	X	X	X
Military ID Card	Surviving children registered in DEERS are eligible for a military ID card at 10 years old. However, there are situations in which children under age 10 may be issued a military ID card, such as the child lives with a guardian or parent who is not the sponsor.	X		
DoD Commissary Program	Access to commissary with a personal agent if the living parent remarried or forfeited continuation of DoD benefits.	X	X	