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Second Lady Karen Pence to Host Comfort Kit Event to Support Military Kids

On September 6, 2018, Mrs. Karen Pence will host an event at the Vice President's Residence to pack 500 With You All the Way! Dealing with Deployment Comfort Kits. She is inviting the Congressional Club to join her for this event to support military children and their families. The following week, Mrs. Pence will distribute the Comfort Kits to military kids at Fort Carson, CO. "Military families are near and dear to my heart and I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to be able to lend a helping hand to support military children who have a parent deployed," said Mrs. Pence. "Thank you to the Congressional Club for joining me to pack the kits. In addition, I appreciate the great partnership with Comfort Crew for Military Kids and their help to make it possible for us to assemble 500 kits for children at Fort Carson."

The With You All the Way (WYATW)! Dealing With Deployment Comfort Kit was created by the Comfort Crew for Military Kids (CCMK), a national 501 (c)3, founded to support military kids and their families through programs designed to strengthen their social and emotional resilience. CCMK delivers critical strategies to nurture resiliency for the extraordinary challenges military families face such as: moving every 2-3 years, multiple deployments, learning to live together after deployment, healing after a visible or invisible injury, and the loss of a parent.

The WYATW! Dealing With Deployment Kit is one of four specialized Comfort Kits created to support military kids ages 6-12. It includes an animated DVD to let kids know they aren't alone and hear from other kids experiencing similar feelings, a guided journal with prompts that provides a safe place to get negative emotions out and on paper, a plush bear named Cuzzie® that offers comfort and companionship, a guidebook that contains information for the whole family, and items to help keep the family connected during the separation. The other three Comfort Kits available to military families at no cost include the Together Again! Helping Military Families Reconnect Kit, the Taking Care of You! Support for Kids of Injured Heroes Kit, and the Memory Box, Helping Military Children Handle Loss. All of the Comfort Kits were designed to increase communication within families, teach kids how to understand, manage, and express their feelings, and let kids know they are not alone.

"We are very honored to be working with Mrs. Pence to provide this much needed support to our military families. It's so important we recognize the whole family serves," said Ronda Englander, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Comfort Crew for Military Kids.

We are grateful for the generosity of our sponsor for this project, <u>Veterans United Foundation</u>. Their support has made it possible for us to provide these valuable resources to military kids and their families who are separated due to deployment.

Available for Interview:

Ronda Englander - Co-Founder and Executive Director of Comfort Crew for Military Kids, 512-426-9443, ronda@comfortcrew.org

For more information about Comfort Crew for Military Kids, please visit www.comfortcrew.org.

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About the Comfort Crew for Military Kids

The Comfort Crew for Military Kids is a 501(c)3 organization that supports school age military kids through programs designed to strengthen their social and emotional resilience. Founded in 2007, The Comfort Crew delivers proven resources to help military kids and their family connect and build resiliency in the face of extraordinary challenges.

The Comfort Crew works directly with military children all over the world and provides them with a wide variety of comfort kits and educational resources that are customized to meet their specific needs and let them know – we are **With You All the Way!** To learn more about The Comfort Crew for Military Kids or make a donation, please visit www.comfortcrew.org.