



Rhode Island Speak Out for Military Kids (SOMK) Training Team Position Description

What is Speak Out for Military Kids (SOMK)?

Speak Out for Military Kids (SOMK) is a youth-driven educational speakers' bureau designed to generate awareness and community activism to support "suddenly military" youth and families.

One of the issues facing military youth and families is the lack of community awareness of the unique stressors and challenges they face during times of conflict and war. This lack of understanding by the general public can make military youth feel isolated and misunderstood.

What is the Role of the Rhode Island SOMK Training Team?

- To raise the public awareness of issues facing military families during mobilization and deployment of a family member
- To develop youth-led speakers' bureaus, lectures, public service announcements, videos and other presentation materials to help military kids share their experiences in communities throughout Rhode Island.

How will my Involvement with the SOMK Training Team Benefit Me?

- You will have the opportunity to create Rhode Island's SOMK program
- You will have the opportunity to gain valuable leadership, research, organization, technical and public speaking skills and share your experiences with others.
- You will have the opportunity to work with a variety of community organizations.
- You will get to meet and work with other military and non-military youth and learn from their experiences.
- You'll have fun and challenge yourself!

Rhode Island Speak Out for Military Kids (SOMK) Training Team Membership:

The state training team will be composed of 15 youth (military and non-military) ages 14-18 and two adults representing National Guard/Reserve and OMK

Partner organizations (4-H, Boys & Girls Club, etc.), plus URI 4-H staffers and volunteers.

Responsibilities and Commitment:

- Be willing to work as a team member to set the plan of action for the project and assist in carrying the identified plan of work.
- Be available and willing to attend workshops and trainings, with the final goal of filming a Public Service Announcement about military families in RI
- Communicate and work with Rhode Island's OM Program Coordinator, SOMK Project Director and Extension Staff.

Qualifications:

- Willingness to serve on the SOMK Training Team and be able to provide the required time commitment.
- Strong interest in creating awareness of issues regarding "suddenly military" kids, and building support through the SOMK team.
- Willingness to work as a team, listen to others' ideas and represent people's feeling within the established community.

APPLICATION DUE TO:

Pamela Martin, Rhode Island OMK Program Coordinator
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APPLICATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, MARCH 10, 2010



Rhode Island Speak Out for Military Kids (SOMK) Training Team Membership Application

We are excited that you are interested in being a member of the Rhode Island State SOMK Training Team. So that we can get to know you better, please provide us with the following information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____ Cell: _____

Please check: _____ Youth _____ Adult

Gender: _____ Male _____ Female

Military Affiliation, if any:

National Guard _____ Reserves _____

Army _____ Air Force _____ Navy _____ Marines _____ Coast Guard _____

Please complete the following questions as completely and as detailed as possible; attach additional pages if necessary.

- 1. Describe yourself. Tell about any experiences with the military, your involvement in your community, any experience you've had working in groups, and any other skills/talents you have to offer. Be sure to list your extra-curricular activities like drama, sports, music and any clubs in which you are active.**
- 2. Why are you interested in being a member of the Rhode Island Speak Out for Military Kids (SOMK) Training Team?**

3. Why is it important to you to be part of this project?

Applicant's Signature date

Parent/Guardian Signature date

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

Operation: Military Kids is a partnership of Army Child and Youth Services, National 4-H Headquarters/USDA, and University of Rhode Island 4-H Youth Development. Operation: Military Kids-Rhode Island is funded by the 4-H/Army Youth Development Project under Kansas State University special project number #500-3216-0000-

