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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The YMCA of Rapid City Supports Local Black Hills Families During Military Family Month and Beyond**

RAPID CITY, October 30, 2025 – For more than 25 years, YMCAs across the country have celebrated Military Family Month in November, providing Americans the opportunity to recognize the dedication, sacrifice and service of military personnel and their families. Throughout the year, the YMCA of Rapid City supports military families with programs and initiatives that improve their well-being and provide opportunities to connect with other families in similar situations.

“We know our military families need support while their loved ones are serving,” said Augustin Caraza, Liberty Center YMCA Branch Manager. “The Y is here to support those families, whether it’s providing a place where kids can be safe, making friends while finding a sense of belonging or providing a place for adults to meet their health and wellness goals.”

Since 2008, the Military Outreach Initiative has provided more than 87,000 Y memberships to military members and their families. In 2024, the Liberty Center YMCA has provided more than 21 local military families YMCA scholarships through its Hero Fund.

To celebrate Military Family Month, all YMCA locations across the Black Hills will offer a \$0 Joiner Fee for active-duty service members, National Guard, Reserves and military veterans during the month of November. Service members must simply register for membership in person at their local YMCA with a valid military/government-issued photo ID between November 1-30. The YMCA of Rapid City also offers association-wide discounts for military families.

First established by the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) and recognized by the U.S. government ever since, Military Family Month recognizes the dedication and service of military personnel and their families. To learn more about the Y and programming that supports military families, visit [www.rcymca.org](http://www.rcymca.org).

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### ***About the YMCA of Rapid City***

Driven by its founding mission, the YMCA of Rapid City has served as a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community for more than 77 years. The Y empowers everyone, no matter who they are or where they’re from, by ensuring access to resources, relationships and opportunities for all to learn, grow and thrive. By bringing together people from different backgrounds, perspectives and generations, the Y’s goal is to improve overall health and well-being, ignite youth empowerment and demonstrate the importance of connections in and across 10,000 communities nationwide. Learn more at [rcymca.org](http://rcymca.org)