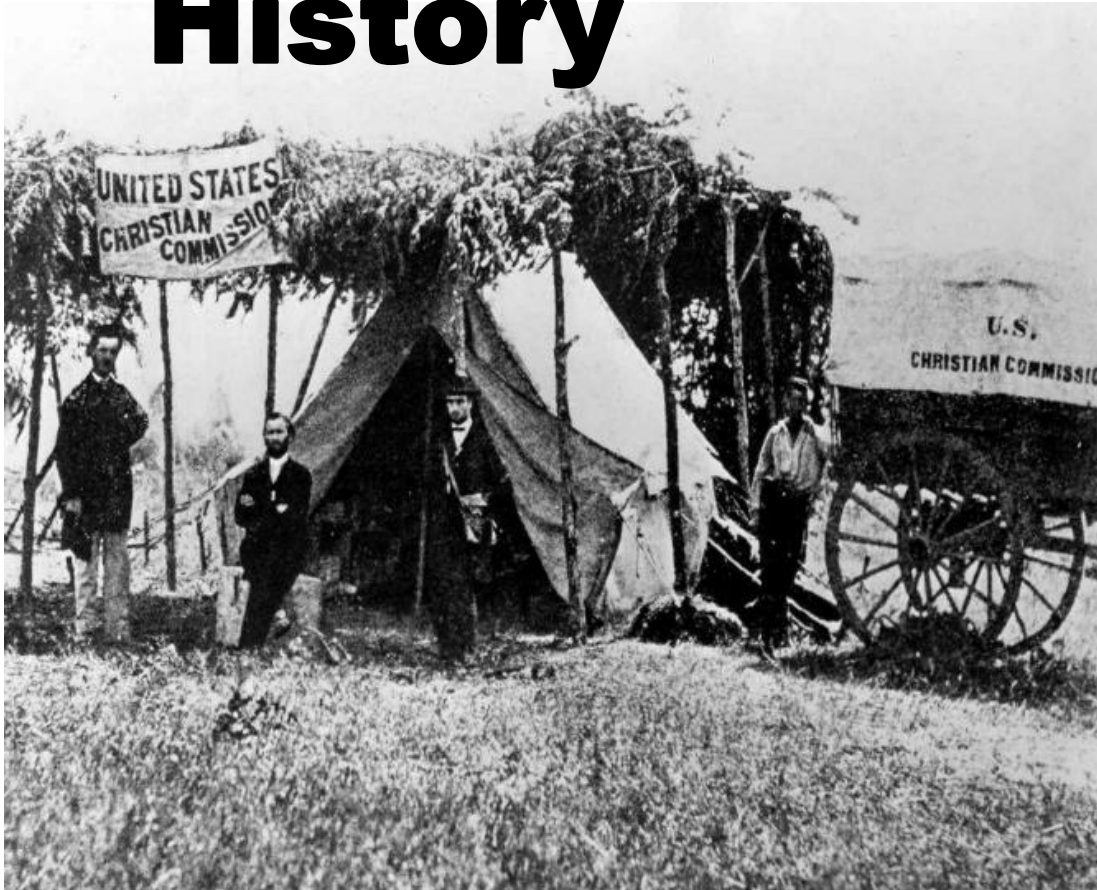




the 
ARMED SERVICES YMCA
Hampton Roads

Strengthening Our Military Family
Charity Navigator 4-Star Charity and Charity Watch Top Rated

Armed Services YMCA History

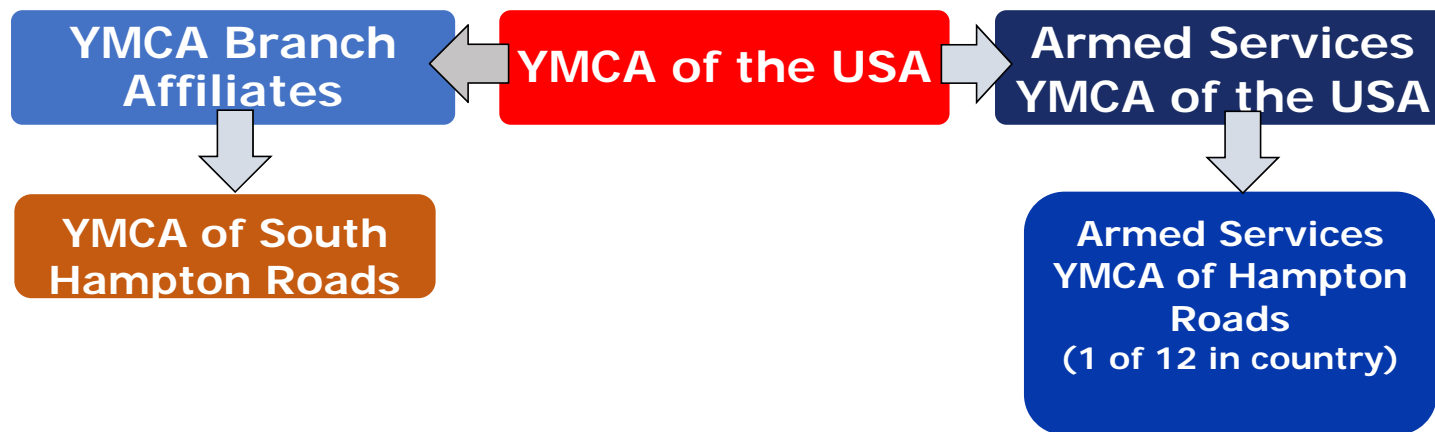


The proud heritage of the Armed Services YMCA dates back to April 1861, when YMCA volunteers stepped forward to provide relief and comfort to sick and injured Civil War soldiers. Courageously entering active battlefields, these volunteers delivered vital services directly to troops on the front lines.

As word of their compassionate and selfless efforts spread, the number of volunteers grew rapidly. Within just seven (7) months, this grassroots movement evolved into the nation's first large-scale civilian volunteer service corps.

To better coordinate these expanding relief efforts, representatives from 15 YMCAs came together to form the United States Christian Commission. Dedicated to providing both spiritual and physical comfort to soldiers, this organization laid the foundation for what is now known as the Armed Services YMCA.

The Armed Services YMCA is not your traditional YMCA.
We don't have a pool, fitness equipment or membership fees!



- ❖ What began as a call to comfort wounded soldiers during the Civil War has grown into a lasting movement dedicated to strengthening military families every single day.
- ❖ The Armed Services YMCA fulfills a unique mission by meeting urgent needs within the military community at low or no cost, with a special focus on supporting young, junior enlisted families (E5 and below) across the Hampton Roads region.

We receive no funding from the Department of Defense, National or Local YMCAs; we are sustained by the generosity of donors throughout the Hampton Roads community.

Two (2) Armed Services YMCA locations to serve Hampton Roads Military Families!



- ❖ Childcare facility managed by ASYMCA's Headquarters and financially supported by DOD
- ❖ Full day childcare for ages 6 weeks to 5 years
- ❖ Opened in May 2025 with a second Hampton Roads location in Virginia Beach opening in 2026
- ❖ 216 child capacity



- ❖ Armed Services YMCA of Hampton Roads branch in Virginia Beach providing numerous programs, including Pre-K, Before & After Care, and Patriot's Pantry
- ❖ All are no or low-cost programs
- ❖ **85%** of the funding to run this facility comes from subsidies or donations



6 Core Child and Youth Enrichment Programs

OPERATION LITTLE LEARNERS

- ❖ **FREE**, curriculum-based program for active-duty military families
- ❖ Meets twice a week for 13 weeks
- ❖ Offered at 15 locations throughout Hampton Roads
- ❖ Parents participate alongside their child(ren), 18 months to 5 years, in a classroom setting
- ❖ Activities include learning stations, crafts, and outdoor play
- ❖ Monthly “Craft and Conversation” gatherings for families
- ❖ Includes a **FREE** monthly outing to explore Hampton Roads together



“For me, this has been a welcome space. I’ve been able to create a village of moms who know the struggles of deployments and are in the same boat as me. A place where we all understand the struggle and the need to support each other... This program saved my life.”

- Operation Little Learner, Participant



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FIVE STAR KIDS

PRESCHOOL AT THE ARMED SERVICES YMCA OF HAMPTON ROADS

- ❖ Opened a preschool in 2021 following the public-school schedule
- ❖ Introduced half-day preschool class in 2025
- ❖ Free tuition subsidies available for families needing financial assistance
- ❖ All other tuition rates are based on military rank
- ❖ Ensures military children receive the same educational opportunities as their civilian peers

31 of our 48 military children receive FREE tuition through a subsidy assistance grant.



OPERATION

HERO

- ❖ Operation Hero is a FREE, nine-week program that supports students in grades 2–5
- ❖ Helps children understand and respect their parents' sacrifice and service
- ❖ Empowers students to recognize their important role within their military family
- ❖ Offered in high military-impacted schools throughout Hampton Roads
- ❖ Also available at the academy for homeschooled students and military children in school-age care
- ❖ Concludes with a graduation ceremony and celebration for participants, families, and staff





- ❖ Before- and after-school care in a safe, reliable, and FUN learning environment
- ❖ Engages students in high-interest, interactive, STREAM-based activities
- ❖ Offers lessons designed to enhance creativity
- ❖ Includes dramatic play, clubs, physical activity, and socialization with peers
- ❖ Creates an engaging experience that encourages year-after-year participation
- ❖ Provides transportation to and from Virginia Beach area schools
- ❖ Subsidies accepted to support family affordability
- ❖ Military families receive priority enrollment



OPERATION SUMMER CAMP

- ❖ All-inclusive, theme-centered, full-day camp with weekly field trips, STREAM-based activities, swimming, and team-building
- ❖ Daily opportunities for physical activity that promote a healthy, active lifestyle
- ❖ Hands-on learning experiences tailored to students' unique needs





"We just received the lion today for my son!! I cannot thank you guys and Little Bug enough as this has already brought my son so much comfort as his dad deployed only a few days ago." - Kaylinn C.

OPERATION KID COMFORT

- ❖ A soft cloth animal designed to support emotional connection
- ❖ Created by a military spouse
- ❖ Features a pocket for a parent's shirt or clothing item
- ❖ Allows the lovie to carry the familiar scent of a loved one
- ❖ Helps children feel safe, connected, and comforted during times apart
- ❖ Free to military families by registering at ASYMCAHR website





Emergency Food Assistance

Mondays & Wednesdays

9:00am - 2:30pm by appointment

Fridays

Walk-in 9:30am - 2:00pm

- ❖ Available to all active-duty military families in Hampton Roads
- ❖ Operates on an honor system
 - No referrals required
 - No documentation of financial need required
- ❖ Pantry operated in partnership with the Southeastern Virginia Foodbank

Over 14,185 registrants (51,326 family members) were served in 2025 - a 53% increase from 2024!



2025 Recipient of a \$100K Lowe's Hometown Grant





- ❖ Provides approximately 1,800 FREE Thanksgiving food bags each year to junior enlisted military families in need
- ❖ Helps ensure no military family goes without a holiday meal shared together
- ❖ Includes traditional Thanksgiving favorites
- ❖ Comes with a gift certificate for a complimentary ham or turkey to complete the meal
- ❖ Eases the financial burden on military families during the holiday season
- ❖ Creates opportunities for families to gather, celebrate gratitude, and make lasting holiday memories

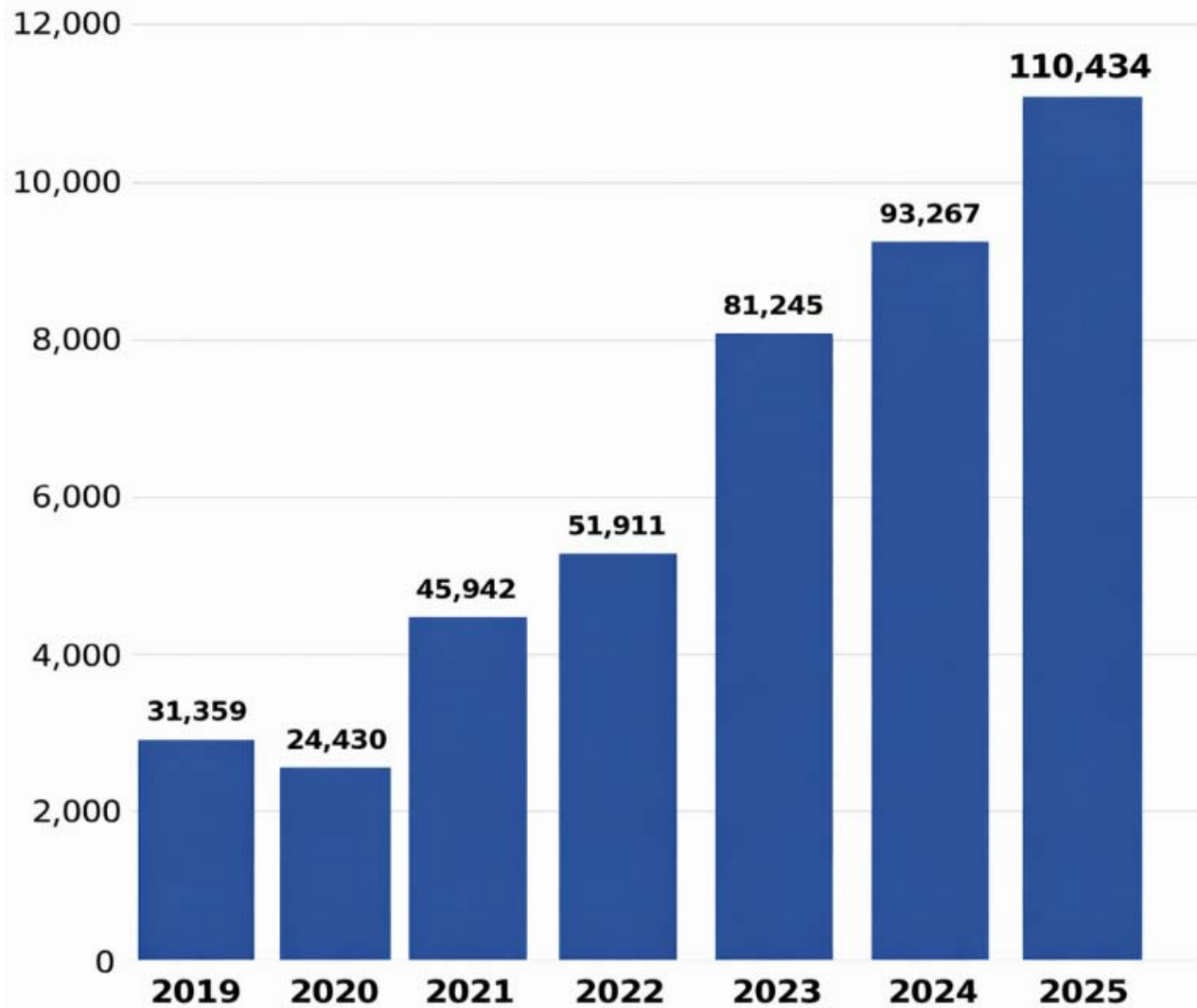




- ❖ Sponsored by Jack Daniels; all ASYMCA branches supported
- ❖ Makes travel home possible for E1–E5 service members, their spouses, and dependent children ages 0–18
- ❖ Annual travel period: November 1 through January 31
- ❖ Applications open online in October
- ❖ Provides families ample time to plan their holiday journey home
- ❖ Eases the financial and logistical burden of holiday travel
- ❖ Allows service members and their families to focus on time together, shared memories, and the joy of the season
- ❖ Assisted 359 family members with over \$97,729 in funding in 2025
 - Flights – 194 (\$76,734)
 - Gift Cards – 150 (\$20,995)



POINTS OF SERVICE



IN 2025, POINTS OF SERVICE FOR OUR CORE PROGRAMS GREW TO

110,434

Events

**Building community and
supporting military families!**





Hearts For Heroes Fishing Trip

Friday, May 29, 2026
Rudee Inlet, Virginia Beach

Camaraderie among peers is important to a strong military community. This special outing provides wounded, ill, and injured Veterans and their caregivers with a day of camaraderie, respite, and healing on the Chesapeake Bay. It offers Veterans the opportunity to build connections, lean on one another, draw strength from shared experiences, and recharge away from the demands of daily life.





FATHER *Daughter* MILITARY BALL

July 10 & 11, 2026
Norfolk Waterside Marriott

An annual event designed to re-establish and strengthen that special bond between our active-duty members and their children as frequent deployments and extended separations can strain relationships and impact a child's well-being. The Father/Daughter & Military Child Ball is a cherished tradition that celebrates the unique bonds within military families. Designed to create lasting memories, this formal evening brings fathers and their daughters and service members and their children together for an unforgettable night of entertainment, dining, dancing, connection, and joy.



MILITARY *Child Ball*



Be Somebody's Hero Golf Tournament & Online Auction

**September 17, 2026 | Norfolk, VA
Sewells Point Golf Course**

This annual golf tournament, hosted by the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Hampton Roads Chapter, helps to raise the much-needed funds for the no- and low-cost programs offered by the ASYMCAHR for junior-enlisted service members and their families stationed in the area.





Sunday,
October
25
2026

The Military Family Fall Festival & Resource Fair provides a free, themed day of family fun in a safe environment for our Hampton Roads military members and their families. Filled with crafts, entertainment, activities, and games for our attendees to enjoy, the day will also provide valuable information on resources for our military community, including the opportunity for corporate sponsors to provide information on products and services that can help improve military members' quality of life.

Virginia Beach Convention Center





Five Military Family Recognition Luncheon

Events that build community and support military families!



This annual luncheon recognizes the significant contributions of military families who go above and beyond in their philanthropic and volunteer initiatives supporting the Hampton Roads community. All branches of service are represented!

**Friday, December 4, 2026
The Westin Town Center
Virginia Beach**

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LET'S GET CONNECTED FOR OUR LATEST NEWS & UPDATES!



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In total, the Armed Services YMCA of Hampton Roads, provided **110,434 points of service to our military families in 2025, but we have so much more we can do!**

Please help us serve more military families!



hamptonroads.asymca.org