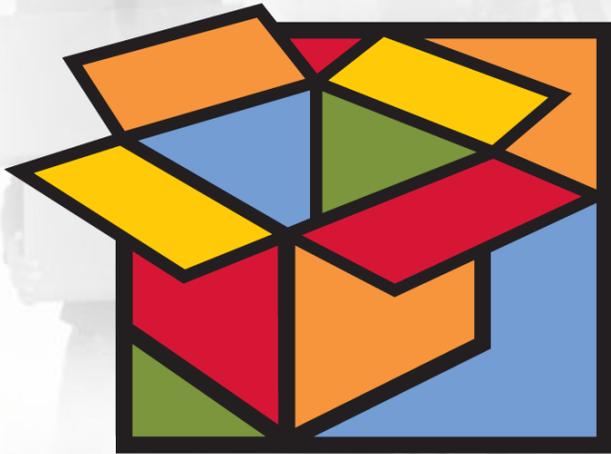


RELOCATION PROGRAM



Moving Made Easy

What Mobile Military Families Want You to Know

Joy Dunlap & Katie Savant



12th Annual Joint Services/Agency/ERC
Relocation Training Conference

National Military Family Association

- **National nonprofit started in 1969**
- **Serving families of all ranks, branches and components of the seven uniformed services**
- **Operation Purple[®] Camps**
- **Military Spouse Scholarships**
- **Military Family Award**
- **Free Educational Resources**

www.MilitaryFamily.org

Military Families Share

National Military Family Association/RAND Study

Understanding Deployment & Kids

- Largest study of cross services and families to date
- *Children on the Homefront: The Experience of Children from Military Families*, published in Journal of Pediatrics; <http://pediatrics.aapublications.org/>
- Addressed Two Key Questions
 - How are school-age military children faring?
 - What type of issues do military children face related to deployment?

Military Families Share

Relocation Survey

Most important in neighborhood choice:

- **90% ability to cover most housing costs w/ BAH**
- **80% access to medical facilities**
- **96% community amenities**
- **90% education for children & adults**
- **95% employment opportunities**
- **100% safety & security**

Military Families Share

Relocation Survey

Most likely to:

- **Seek employment before relocating**
- **House-hunt prior to a move**
- **Web research**

Military Families Share

Relocation Survey

Preferences:

- **40% would prefer to purchase a home**
- **40% would prefer to live in military housing (government or privatized)**
- **70% are concerned about temporary housing**

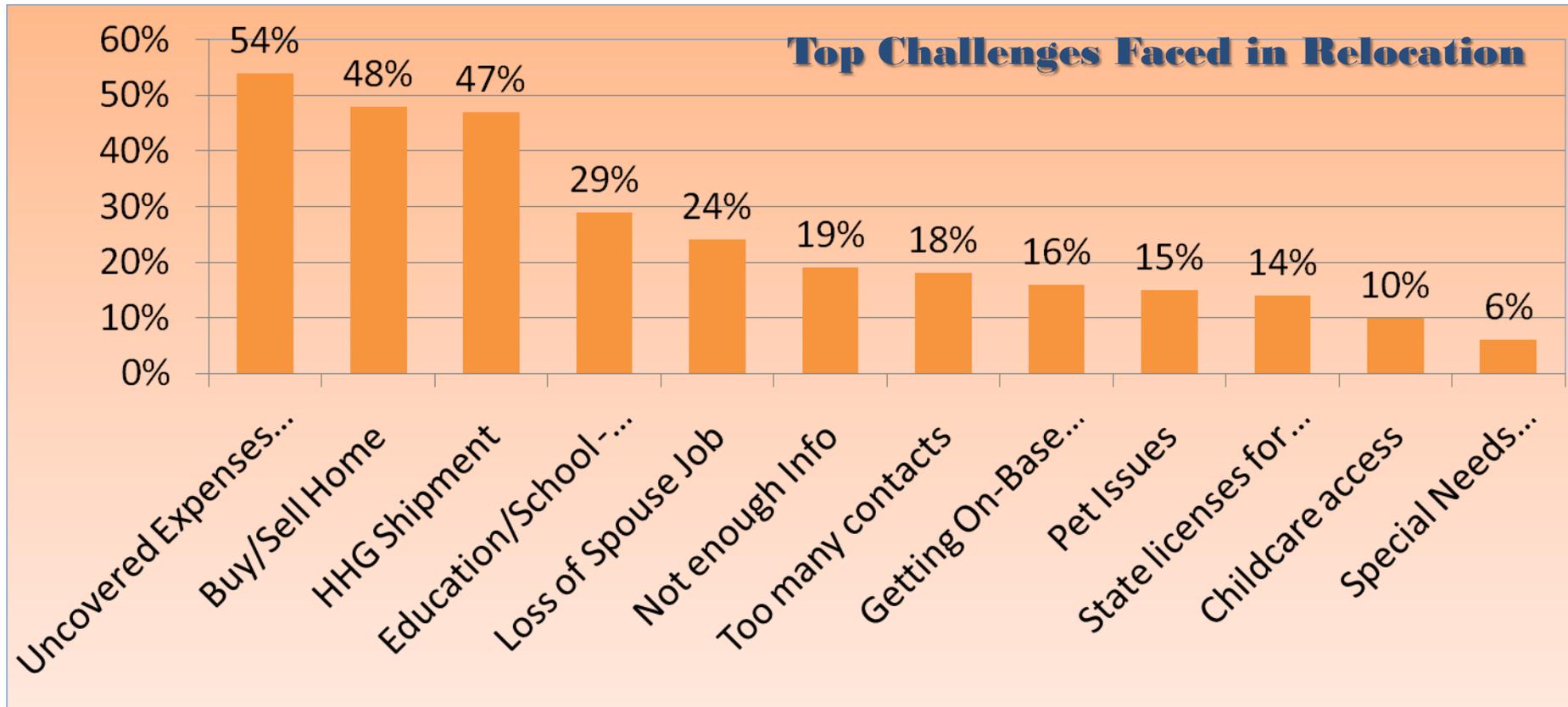
Challenges

- **Multiple touch-points for relocation**
 - Housing Office, Finance, Relocation Manager, TMO
- **Inaccurate/dated website information**
- **POC contact information is limited (no email addresses)**

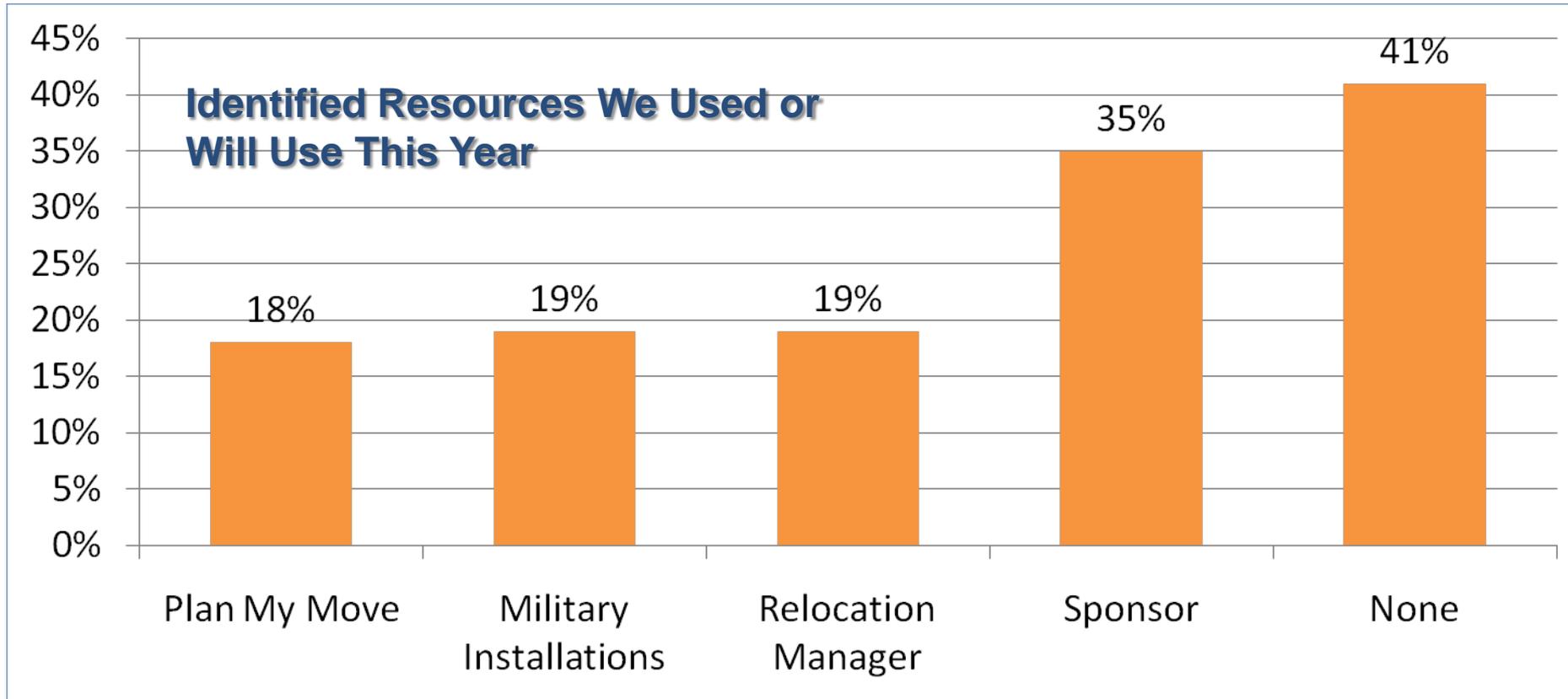
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

- **375,000 members**; 416 chapters; 80 years
- **\$9.2 million- scholarships/no-interest loans - 1650 children** (*enlisted, officer, AD, G/R, retired*)
- **Career Center:** Job Fairs, Seminars
- **Professional Symposia:** Wounded Warrior, Spouse, Issue-based
- **Info Resource:** E-letters, Books, Blogs
- **Contests:** Essay/Photo
- **Advocacy:** All Servicemembers & their Families

MOAA Quick Poll - May 2010



MOAA Quick Poll - May 2010



Initiatives to Help Families

- **500-lb. pro gear allowance for military spouses**
 - Includes: reference material, tools, specialized clothing, etc.
 - Excludes: commercial products for sale/resale, etc.
 - Many still don't know about it
- **Career Advancement Accounts**
 - 136,000+ in system for \$6000 grants
 - Program under review for new applicants

Initiatives to Help Families

- **House Purchase Tax Credit**
 - Members who serve overseas for at least 90 days (Dec 31, '08-May 31,'10) *eligible for one-year extension for \$8,000 housing tax credit*
 - Need to sign contract by April 30, *2011*
 - Home - less than \$800,000
 - Income couple cap - \$225,000

Initiatives to Help Families

- **Military Spouse Residency Relief Act**
 - Spouse can maintain domicile for voting & tax purposes
 - Check with JAGs, accountants, state revenue offices before acting
 - Not all employers will withhold for another state; spouses may have to personally file quarterly

Initiatives to Help Families

- **Military Spouse Non-Competitive Hiring Authority**
 - Eligible up to 2 years from PCS; or from verification of 100% disability, or AD death of SM
 - www.usajobs.gov
- **Military Spouse Fed Gov't Intern Program**
 - DoD to reimburse federal agencies for 1st year salary, benefits & training for 120 positions
 - www.cpms.osd.mil/MilSpouseinternship.aspx

Initiatives to Help Families

- **Family & Medical Leave Act - Military Deployment Provision**
 - **Unpaid leave to support deployment**
 - **Up to 12 weeks from Private Sector Employer (50 employees or more) or Federal Government**
 - **Spouse, Children, Parents**
 - **What counts?**
 - **Military Ceremonies, Support Briefings, etc.**
 - **Financial and Legal Arrangements**
 - **Counseling: self, military member, children**
 - **Short-term R&R support: up to 5 days**
 - **Post-deployment activities, etc.**

Proposed Initiatives

- **Military Spouses Employment Act**
 - Tax incentive for **businesses to hire military spouses**
 - Spouses of Active Duty as well as NG & Reserve w/SM activated 90 days
 - Would allow employers to claim tax credit of 40% for first \$6,000 in wages for qualified spouses on payroll at least 400 hrs (25% for 120-399 hrs)
 - HR 4764 & S3232

Proposed Initiatives

- **Military Spouse Job Continuity Act of 2010**
 - **Income tax credit** against amounts paid for a new **State license or certification due to PCS move to another state**
 - **Up to \$500**
 - **H.R. 4693**

Proposed Initiatives

- **Servicemembers Permanent Change of Station Relief Act**
 - **Would Increase Servicemember's PCS Mileage Rate to Same as TDY Rate**
 - **Authorize paid 2nd Vehicle Shipment to Alaska, Hawaii, Guam**

State Initiatives to Help Families

■ Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

- Enrollment, eligibility, placement, graduation
 - **31 states – 84%** of military children
 - **2010 – NJ, NM, SD, UT, WI; IL with Governor**
 - **2009 – AL, AK, CA, IA, IN, MS, MD, NV*, TX, VA, WA**
 - *Nevada not effective until 2011
 - GA & AR – passed alternate; NOT in Compact
 - **2008-AZ,CO,CT,DE,FL,KS,KY,MI,MO,NC, OK**
 - **Being Considered: DC,MA, NY, PA, RI, SC, TN**
- as of May 2010

State Initiatives to Help Families

- **Unemployment Compensation**
 - 38 states offer to military spouses
 - Ohio and Tennessee are considering
 - DC passed in May 2010
 - DoD Regional Liaison efforts;
- **10 Key Issues for Military Families**
 - www.usa4militaryfamilies.org

Initiatives to Help Families

- **Post 9-11 GI Bill Proposed Enhancements (some)**
 - Inclusion of Non-Degree Courses
 - Books Stipend for AD/AD Spouse
 - Housing Allowance for Exclusive Distance Learning
 - Title 32 State Time to Count
- **Post 9-11 GI Bill Transferability**
 - Service member can change or revoke transfer but CAN'T ADD anyone after leaving service
 - Recommend transfer at least one month to each FM

Contact Information

- **Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)**

www.moaa.org

- **National Military Family Association**

www.MilitaryFamily.org

www.facebook.com/militaryfamily