



**A Charitable Corporation pursuant to Section 501(C) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code
Taking Care of South Carolina Military Members and Families**

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The **South Carolina Military Family Care Association** (SCMFCA), an outgrowth of the SCARNG 263d Army and Air Missile Defense Command Family Readiness Group (FRG), was created to enhance quality of life for military members and Families whose sacrifices are many. The SCMFCA is a citizen group of patriots who upon incorporation operates separately and completely antonymous of the military.

The SCMFCA provides emergency relief to South Carolina Army and Air Guard members and their Families in the event of unusual or unpreventable hardship. Grants are provided with no expectation of reimbursement by those helped. The fund also provides educational scholarships to South Carolina Army and Air Guard family members through the National Guard Association of South Carolina.

The SCMFCA's operations are unlike any program in the country. Best practices include:

- ◆ This is a commander's wallet or purse. Commanders vet and forward requests, and are front line to Soldier/Family care.
- ◆ When Guard members receive funding, they receive hope, and an awareness of belonging to something greater than themselves.
- ◆ Needs are assessed, decided upon, and funds distributed usually within twenty-four hours of request; often within six hours. A bank partnership makes transfers immediate for funding relief statewide.
- ◆ Payments are made to vendors only (e.g., the landlord, electric company); as much as is needed. Sometimes significant funds are needed to keep the utilities on, shelter in place, and the car from repossession when a Guard family is financially vulnerable.
- ◆ The SCMFCA is not a social program. It is a stop gap to help move Guard members and Families forward to a readiness posture during unforeseen financial challenges.
- ◆ The SCMFCA is tax exempt, organized under IRS 501(c) 3. All donations are tax deductible.
- ◆ The SCMFCA is administered by a Board of Directors and fund Authorizers, dedicated community members in accordance with bylaws who provide a check and balance on the administration of funds. A certified public accountant monitors all expenditures and financial records.
- ◆ There are no program expenses and no paid employees. The SCMFCA is 100% volunteer. 100% of all donated funds go to taking care of Service Members and Families.

Inquires may be directed to point of contact: Mrs. Michele Canchola, 864-221-8788 (mrs.canchola@us.army.mil).