



# Military Spouse Finds Fulfillment in Cycle of Care

*We'll be highlighting one of our Military Student Transition Consultants in each issue. Amanda Ebner is serving our students in San Antonio, Texas!*



**M**CEC Military Student Transition Consultants (MSTC) serve in school districts as navigators and advocates for military-connected students and their families as they transition in or out of schools.

As a military spouse and mother, Amanda Ebner has seen the results of MSTCs personally. "MSTCs are a God-send for military families. I didn't know about them when we were active duty and moving so much. I had heard of SLOs but not someone who physically helps not only myself but my children's transitions in and out of schools, houses, communities, states, and countries," shared Amanda. MSTCs are in place to help with the entry of military families and students from the time they come into a community until the time they leave for another station. "It's a continual cycle of care from the beginning to the end," said Amanda.

around burns, amputees, families that have been separated, we've even had a couple that have passed away." Amanda continued, "I feel like I can help these families with that because I did it as a spouse."

The needs of military families and students vary, especially between elementary, middle, and high schools. "You really have to build a relationship with students. Some students aren't sure or may not even know what the problem is," said Amanda. She explained that some students may have a parent with PTSD or TBI, but perhaps their family hasn't talked about it yet. "They may know something is wrong but they don't really know what's wrong," shared

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Support and needs for students vary by demographic location. "In San Antonio we have over 21,000 military students, and I am the only MSTC in the area," explained Amanda. She is located on Fort Sam Houston, but serves families throughout the Joint Base San Antonio area. "If counselors or teachers from other school districts call, I set up an appointment and go meet with them," stated Amanda. "We also conduct surveys of military families so I can see what the needs are at the moment."

Amanda has had firsthand experience with the challenges facing the families of wounded veterans. Her husband is an occupational therapist and has taken care of wounded warriors his whole career. "We have been raised

Amanda. She wants her students to know that she is available as a resource in whatever way they need.

Amanda is a great addition to the MCEC Military Student Transition Consultant program. Her background as a military spouse and mother has given her the experience needed to provide military and veteran-connected families the varying levels of support they need.

Moving and adjusting to a new school can be challenging for military students. Military Student Transition Consultants are here to address your questions and concerns, and plays a pivotal role in establishing collaboration among school systems, education agencies, public and private youth services, community groups, and installation resources.

**For more information about MSTCs, visit: [www.MilitaryChild.org/MSTC](http://www.MilitaryChild.org/MSTC)**