

THE OPERATION CHILD CARE PROJECT



Tiffany Orner

Board Member, The Operation Child Care Project

Tiffany Orner is a United States Air Force (USAF) veteran, military spouse, entrepreneur, and military advocate. Tiffany joined the military just before September 11, 2001. In fact, she was in boot camp on that day and will never forget raising her hand when asked who in the room had family in the New York City Area. It was an abrupt start to her military career, during which Tiffany went on to serve as a War Readiness Technician contributing to Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Her heroic service didn't stop when Tiffany transitioned from the military. Since that time, she has dedicated herself to actively volunteering and supporting numerous military and veteran organizations. She leverages her personal experience to ensure service members receive the support they truly need when facing separation from the military and the challenges of reintegration into civilian life. Today, Tiffany is the CEO and Founder of IGY6 Company and also serves in the role of Military Engagement Manager for Forever Warriors (forever-warriors.org).

In 2023, Tiffany attended the Military Influencer Conference (MIC) in Las Vegas where she met Kayla Corbitt, founder of The Operation Child Care Project (OCCP). She learned that OCCP was a then-emerging 501(c)(3) non-profit with a mission to ensure military families have access to affordable, high-quality child care options, empowering them to pursue their career goals and create stable environments for their quality of life. Tiffany vividly recalls Kayla taking the stage to speak about the military childcare crisis while carrying her daughter on her hip. "I remember saying to my team, *we found another one of 'us'.*" She described Kayla as having "the same energy and passion."

Tiffany is the daughter of a single mother who served in the USAF. She remembers the desperate need for childcare to support our service members and families from her own experience as a military child. Each time her mother was deployed, Tiffany was put on a plane in California with other unaccompanied minors and flown to stay with family on the East Coast. Later, when Tiffany joined the USAF after high school as a junior enlisted member, she navigated military childcare challenges herself. "In the military, they don't prep you for how to do all of these things. When you get the first bill for someone to watch your babies, it gets real really quick. You go into survival mode."

Fast forward to 2024, and Tiffany now serves actively on the OCCP Board of Directors, helping to support the mission of the non-profit. Tiffany leans into her own life experience and hopes to help others through her involvement in OCCP, "If there's a way that by sitting on this board, I can help that Tiffany from 2003, I'm all in." Tiffany wants military families to know that "they have a force fighting for them." She encourages military members and their families to "fall in with Kayla and listen to what she says. Don't ever give up. Hold the line. We're coming."

Tiffany is a mom to three children and lives in the Florida panhandle with her husband, who is active in the USAF Reserves. To learn more or share the gift of your time, expertise, or financial support to further the work Tiffany and the team at OCCP are doing, visit occproject.org and stay tuned for updates on facebook.com/theoccproject.