

Post Offers Free Daycare

An Oregon Post offers veterans with young children a chance to have a night on the town without the burden of the cost of childcare

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In Tillamook County, Ore., veterans and active-duty troops with children can access free childcare once per month thanks to Post 2848 in



Tillamook.

According to Post Commander Jim Allenbrand, the Post partnered with Tillamook's Ocean Breeze Baptist Church beginning in July to offer free childcare on the first Friday of each month.

“The church graciously volunteered to let us use the building,” he said. “It has a rec room with ping pong and a foosball table and even a nursery.”

From 6 to 10 p.m., children ages six months to 12 years old can be cared for and entertained thanks to Allenbrand and his wife, Karen, and Auxiliary member Carol McAndrew.

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A Vietnam veteran, Allenbrand said there has not been much of a turnout so far. In October, one family utilized the free service.

“I’m a little disappointed,” he said. “But I’m committed to continuing this program for six months.”

He said members are using various advertising opportunities including radio and digital media.

“We’re doing everything we can to advertise, but still struggling to get veterans with families to come out,” Allenbrand added.

The Post’s Veterans Day program, which generally attracts about 400 people, will be a good time to pass out flyers, he said.

While the idea behind this was for couples to get out for a night without the children, Allenbrand said it’s also ideal for parents just wanting a chance to relax at home for the evening.

For more information, contact Jim or Karen Allenbrand at 503-300-0019.

By [Janie Dyhouse](#), associate editor, *VFW* magazine