



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Satellite Unites Military Families for Mother's Day

*The BCIU offers **free** videoconference for Berks County residents to see and speak with family members on active duty in the Middle East*

READING, PA – Mother's Day will come a bit early for some Berks County residents and their loved ones serving in the Middle East.

Families of servicemen and women on active duty in designated areas of Iraq, Kuwait, or Afghanistan will have the opportunity to see and speak with their son, daughter, wife, or husband via satellite-linked videoconference Saturday, May 9, at the Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU), 1111 Commons Blvd., Reading PA, 19605. The service is free.

The BCIU is partnering with the non-profit Freedom Calls (www.freedomcalls.org) to provide the videoconference opportunity to servicemembers and their families. The event runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Berks County residents will have up to 30 minutes to see and speak privately with their family member.

Because arrangements must be made with the servicemember's supervisors thousands of miles away, anyone wishing to take advantage of the videoconference opportunity **must register by Friday, May 1.**

To register, contact Sue Calvin, supervisor, Distance Learning, 610-987-8639 or via e-mail at suecal@berksiu.org.

Not all active duty personnel serving in the Middle East are eligible to participate. Servicemembers must be stationed at or near military camps that are supported by the Freedom Calls satellite links. The camps are:

Iraq: Camp Taji, Camp Baharia, Camp Taqaddum, Al Asad Airbase, and Camp Victory
Kuwait: Camp Arifjan and Ali Al Saleem Airbase
Afghanistan: Bagram Airfield

For more information, contact Calvin at 610-987-8639 or suecal@berksiu.org.

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