



Workshops

Breakout Session One: **Tuesday, 10:15 – 11:30 a.m.**

Exceptional Families – What is Available to Meet Their Special Needs?



Burnham, West Tower, Silver Level

Isabel Hodge

Program Manager, Exceptional Family Member (EFM) Family Support, OSD

At least fifteen percent of military families include a member who has a special medical and/or educational need. Their needs vary from accessing Medicaid to obtaining special education services from the public schools. The families face major hurdles with every move as they must re-access care from a host of state and military agencies. Most military providers have heard of the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) but are not familiar with the services available through the program. This session will clarify the role of the EFMP and provide information about other resources available to assist families with special needs. A panel of Service representatives will discuss Service-specific differences and the challenges facing families, especially as we move towards joint locations. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with the panel to address issues facing the families they serve. This session will also include an overview of Congressional initiatives as well as information on what is coming up from within the military to address family needs.

Outreach: ISFAC & Community Town Halls and Building Strong Military Families



Dusable, West Tower, Silver Level

LTC Robert “Buck” Bramlish

U.S. Army, State Family Program Director, Ohio

Mike Magnusson

Program Consultant, Joint Family Support Assistance Program, Military OneSource, Ohio

This presentation will focus on initiatives to build stronger more resilient military families across all forces in Ohio through effective outreach and partnership. Initiatives are a part of the OHIO Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee (ISFAC), which ensures a purple approach to the programs. The ISFAC averages about 60-100 attendees representing multiple services, non-governmental organizations (NGO) and government support agencies, nonprofits, volunteers, etc. The ISFAC also publishes an Ohio resource book for service providers to ensure that it has shared information on support services for all situations regardless of a service member’s activation status. The Adjutant General (TAG) completed thirteen community town halls across Ohio and learned that the need for a more regional approach to supporting all service members and families was crucial, thus the evolution to a Regional ISFAC (RISFAC) approach being launched this September. Community support, partnerships, relationships, and TAG

leadership are the foundations of the success in Ohio. Through RISFAC, resources have been effectively tied together with need at the state level and under the RISFAC, those same partnerships will be strengthened at the community/unit level. Family Assistance Center staff serve as the one-stop points of contact to information, resources, and services for all Ohio service members and families.

Keys to Building Community Involvement in Military Family Days



Field, West Tower, Silver Level

Jenny Jordan

Volunteer and Teen Program Specialist, Georgia 4-H Faculty, University of Georgia

Casey Mull

Military Program Liaison, Georgia 4-H, University of Georgia

Unlock the door to a successful Military Family Day with the incorporation of the greater community into the military family. While many family days are held locally at an installation, a community-wide program provides the opportunity for active duty, Reserve, and Guard members of all branches to interact with the community at large. Not only are all branches supported, but the community can understand and assist at a greater level which creates an atmosphere of support and a climate of education. Using the example of a successful program, this session will engage participants in keys of resource identification, success principles, community youth and adult support, and volunteer recruitment to unlock the potential of the community for military support. Structured like a family day itself, the session will immerse participants in the keys of a day of education, support, and relaxation.

Navigating the Perfect Financial Storm: DoD Resources and Programs that Support Mission Readiness by Promoting the Personal Financial Readiness of Our Service Members and Families



Gold Coast, West Tower, Bronze Level

Dave Julian

Director, Office of Personal Finance, OSD

Today's economic environment is posing challenges not seen in this country in decades. The financial behavior of the average American coupled with numerous crises involving credit, banking, savings, employment, and home ownership have resulted in an economic storm. Out of necessity, unlike the average American, our service members and families have access to programs, resources, and protections that can help them safely navigate this perfect financial storm and continue to successfully execute their mission. This presentation will discuss existing Department of Defense (DoD) programs, which offer world-class financial assistance through online resources and counseling, such as Military OneSource, but will also discuss new DoD initiatives such as the Financial Readiness Roadshow events and the Personal Financial Counselor (PFC) program. Participants, regardless of their particular family support specialty, will emerge from this presentation with an enhanced understanding of helpful financial resources to which they can refer members and families. As is widely recognized, financial difficulties manifest themselves in all areas of family life, and in many cases, financial problems are often identified as a root cause for family strife and crises and vice versa.

Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve



RESERVE
/ GUARD

Grand Suite 5, East Tower, Gold Level

Joan Patterman Barrett

Trained Presenter; Accredited Trainer, Military Child Education Coalition

This workshop will provide participants with the basic understanding that is needed to raise personal awareness about the issues faced by military-connected children during the stages of deployment (pre deployment, deployment and reunion) among geographically dispersed families. It is not news that the world changed for all Americans on September 11, 2001. Events of that day mandated a change in the way the military utilizes its service members. All military have been affected, but this class will focus on the children of the Reserve Component of the military, those of the National Guard and/or Reserve.

The Michigan Model: Building Systems of Support for Geographically Dispersed Military Families



GEOGRAPHICALLY
DISPERSED

RESERVE
/ GUARD

Grand Suite 3, East Tower, Gold Level

Sheila Urban Smith

Program Leader, 4-H, Michigan State University

Angela Spina

State Child and Youth Coordinator, Michigan National Guard

This workshop is designed for program professionals who support geographically dispersed military families. The interactive workshop will focus on best practices and lessons learned in developing collaborative programming to support military children, youth, and families. The Michigan National Guard's Road to Reintegration, including Military OneSource and Military Family Life Consultants, and the Operation: Military Kids' teams, has evolved into a community of support from distinctly different organizational cultures. Presenters from the Michigan National Guard and Operation: Military Kids will highlight their experiences in creating a successful collaboration. Successful collaboration includes personal and professional commitment to the mission, open communication, financial considerations, accountability, sharing, and the development of program resources. Participants will be engaged in an active discussion regarding what has proven successful for the Michigan team. Opportunities to trouble-shoot and garner ideas, resources, and suggestions from each other will be provided.

Care Through Partnership: Overview of Transition and Care Coordination Programs



ACTIVE
DUTY

RESERVE
/ GUARD

McCormick, West Tower, Silver Level

Ron Horne

Deputy Director, Transition Assistance Program, Office of Transition Policy & Care Coordination

Chartered in December 2008, the Transition and Care Coordination office works to ensure equitable, consistent, high-quality care coordination and transition support for members of the armed forces, including Wounded Warriors and their families, through appropriate interagency collaboration, responsive policy, and effective program oversight.

Representatives from the OSD Office of Transition Policy and Care Coordination will highlight several programs, resources, and tools available for service members and their families including the Transition Assistance Program, Recovery Coordination Program, and the National Resource Directory website (www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov).

Perfecting the Partnership: Maximizing Behavioral Consultants in Child and Youth Settings



New Orleans, West Tower, Gold Level

Jena Moore

Program Analyst, Office of Counseling, OSD

Laura Savitsky, MSW

Program Analyst, Office of Family Policy, OSD

The purpose of this workshop is to share strategies for maximizing the use of Child and Youth Behavioral Military Family Life Consultants (CYB-MFLCs). The workshop will explore the defining characteristics of the CYB-MFLC Program and its current impact and generate discussion regarding how a successful partnership between child and youth program staff and consultants can promote the social-emotional development of children.

Student On-line Achievement Resources (SOAR): Easing Educational Transitions for Military Families



Truffles, West Tower, Blue Level

Phillip Autrey

Director, Project Management, Princeton Review

When military families transition to a new location, parents are concerned about how the difference in state standards and testing requirements will impact their children's education. Military dependents can be negatively impacted at all grade levels due to these differences. SOAR was developed to help ease those concerns by providing a free, web-based resource for parents and students. Students can take online assessments and interactive tutorials to help fill in educational gaps in math and reading. Parents can monitor student progress online, as well as gain access to relevant information on state standards, testing, and school district websites all at one site. Even families who have not made a recent transition are finding SOAR to be a valuable program for their children to supplement their school work throughout the year. SOAR was launched in April 2008 and has registered over 10,000 families in all fifty states and most overseas installations; however, many families do not know about this resource. SOAR workshop participants will get a first-hand look at the resources available for both parents and students and learn how to help families get connected to SOAR.

Breakout Session Two: Tuesday, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Veteran-Owned Small Business Success Strategies



ALL
AUDIENCES

Atlanta, West Tower, Gold Level

Gail Wegner

Acting Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and Center for Veterans Enterprise

This presentation will describe support services available to assist transitioning personnel and veterans in establishing and expanding for-profit businesses. Discussion will include how to identify procurement opportunities for veteran-owned small businesses in federal prime and subcontracting programs and in commercial markets. This presentation will also provide an overview of federal and VA rules that govern purchases from veteran-owned small businesses and identify businesses owned by veterans for mentoring, teaming, or employment opportunities.

Bringing Military Talent Home to Healthcare



ALL
AUDIENCES

Burnham, West Tower, Silver Level

Daniel Nichols, MA, MDiv, MBA

Executive Director, Military to Medicine Institute, Inova Health System

While the recent economic environment has impacted jobs in every sector, the healthcare industry remains a strong area of growth and opportunity, especially for career portability as a choice for military spouses and families. Nevertheless, entering a career in healthcare and sustaining that career can be a challenging prospect for military families. Over the past several years, Inova Health System, a nonprofit health system located in Northern Virginia has worked closely with the Department of Defense, other healthcare organizations, and military installations to develop a program designed to both facilitate career continuity for military spouses currently in healthcare jobs and to provide new opportunities into promising careers in healthcare occupations. This presentation will educate participants on hiring trends, career tracks, and resources for successfully entering and then balancing a healthcare career with life in the military. Information will be shared regarding the results of a national case study that integrates WorkKeys assessments and Career Readiness Certificates with common healthcare occupations. Participants will be able to identify the major career field, hot job opportunities, and required individual and career competencies to land a job. Participants will also learn how to refer interested military families for free career counseling and skills assessment.

Addressing Deployment Impact on Children and Families:

Critical Role for the Pediatrician



ALL
AUDIENCES

Columbian, West Tower, Bronze Level

COL Elisabeth M. Stafford, MD

Medical Corps, U.S. Army

This workshop will describe how physicians in current military pediatric residency training programs are educated about the impact of deployment on children and the role of physicians in family support. Clinical vignettes will be integrated throughout the presentation, illustrating how children experiencing deployment stress may present

themselves within the healthcare setting. This presentation will include strategies for more proactive screening and assessment in primary care for behavioral and mental health issues within the deployment context. Ongoing advocacy and research activities by pediatricians to raise awareness for family support will be described to include collaborative projects with such organizations as the American Academy of Pediatrics, ZERO TO THREE, and the National Military Family Association. Participants will have an opportunity to brainstorm how the medical community might work more collaboratively with other child/youth-serving programs on military installations and within the surrounding community to promote resiliency and together serve as a safety net for children experiencing distress.

Military Children in Time of War: Effect of War Injuries on Children and Families



Field, West Tower, Silver Level

Dr. Ryo Sook Chun, M.D., (COL U.S. Army Ret)

Board Certified Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist; Clinical Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Service; Director, Operation BRAVE Families program, Walter Reed Army Medical Center

This presentation will address the specific combat-related challenges that children and families face, including wartime parental deployment, injury, illness, and death. Participants will learn about identified areas of challenge related to parental injury to include disruption to family infrastructure; changes to parental styles and effectiveness; the importance of effective, developmentally-appropriate communication to children regarding events; and the need for longer term assistance with those service members who must learn to effectively parent with prolonged disability. While preliminary data suggest little development of psychopathology in children as a result of combat injury of parents, it is unclear how family choices around the time of injury, effectiveness of parental communication related to the injury, long-term parental disability, and potential future parental psychopathology may all lead to future outcomes. It is assumed that effective parental response to these challenges is likely to lead to better child adjustment. This presentation will discuss the initiative Operation BRAVE Families from Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Service, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, which was established to respond to the increasing need for the support and assistance of wounded warrior families and children whose service member parents are going through acute or semi-acute medical care for their injuries.

How to Begin Achieving Your Marriage and Family Potential This Fiscal Year



Gold Coast, West Tower, Bronze Level

Bill Coffin

Special Assistant, Marriage Education, ACF/HHS

This presentation will examine the answers to several questions related to achieving a successful marriage and strong family such as: What are the secrets of strong families? What are the elements of a healthy marriage? How do we achieve success in these important areas of life? This presentation will also provide information on websites that have helpful marriage and family information for any kind of relationship; the state of the art resources and practices every installation, base, and community should offer; and how to connect to the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (ACF/HHS) programs that could serve military couples and families. Participants will learn skills to practice that will reap immediate benefit.

DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program Implementation



RESERVE
/ GUARD

Grand Suite 5, East Tower, Gold Level

COL Dean K. Stinson III

U.S. Army, Director, DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, Center for Excellence in Reintegration

The DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program is responsible for deployment support and the reintegration of more than 10,000 National Guard and Reserve members and their families each month. Support to members and their families include readiness, sustainment, resiliency, mental and physical health issues, as well as financial management and planning, and special consideration of deployment issues affecting children. This presentation will provide an overview of the program and allow time for open discussion and Q&A from participants.

Operation: Military Kids – Exploring Deployment Support Youth Activity Guides and Other Resources



ACTIVE
DUTY RESERVE
/ GUARD

McCormick, West Tower, Silver Level

Jim Deidrick

Liaison to the Joint Family Support Assistance Program, Operation: Military Kids

Kia Harries

Liaison to Operation: Military Kids, Minnesota; 4-H Youth Development Educator

Using relationships with local Operation: Military Kids (OMK) partners, OMK specializes in providing fun, educationally-based experiences that support children and youth as their families move through the deployment cycle. With a focus on kindergarten through twelfth grade, from all branches of the Service, OMK trains staff and volunteers from local communities to provide support programming. Programming support is coordinated through State 4-H Military Liaisons and OMK Project Directors and occurs in a variety of venues including Family Readiness Groups and Yellow Ribbon events. This workshop will highlight information on the *OMK Operation: Boots On* and *Operation: Boots Off* manuals and the *Deployment It's Not a Game* board game. The workshop will also introduce the soon to be released *Operation: Military Kids Deployment Cycle Support Yellow Ribbon Youth Outreach Activity Guides* and *Volunteer Training Guide*.

Clinical Aspects of Working with Suicidal Clients



ALL
AUDIENCES

New Orleans, West Tower, Gold Level

Dr. Mary L. Bartlett

Assistant Professor, Counseling Program, The University of Montevallo

Research shows that the greatest fear of mental health professionals is working with suicidal clients, yet the reality is that most professionals will at some point. Often times, professionals are inadequately trained to handle these crisis situations. This workshop will review prevention measures and intervention techniques. Participants will learn practical, research-based methods to evaluate and work more effectively with suicidal clients. A review of warning signs, common errors of interventionists, and empirically-based assessment guidelines and treatment protocols will be presented. Participants will engage in small group activities and extensive handouts will be provided.

Military Parenting: The Most Important Mission



Ogden, West Tower, Silver Level

Krystal Shiver

Relationship Manager, Military OneSource

Parenting is a challenge. It demands attention to feelings, band-aids for boo-boos, patience, and a whole lot of wet wipes. Now add military family stressors like separation and relocation and it becomes a mission like no other. While the Department of Defense (DoD) does not have a secret parenting manual full of “OI’s” or “SOP’s” on toilet training and combating cyber bullies, it does offer Military OneSource. This session will focus on the services Military OneSource provides, from cradle to college, on topics such as new parent support, positive discipline, special needs, education assistance, and family counseling through short-term solution-focused counseling.

The Learning Child



San Francisco, West Tower, Gold Level

Marilyn Fox

Professor, Management; Co-Director and Director, Accreditation Maintenance, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

The “learning child” concept is based on the developmental characteristics of children, strong family involvement, positive learning experiences, and a comprehensive approach to developing environments where children grow up ready to learn. As defined by *Fun to Play, Ready to Learn*, the six key elements of the “learning child” include early relationships are important; children’s emotional development impacts learning; children are social; children learn by doing and listening; a family is a child’s first teacher and a child’s home is the first classroom; and every child grows at his/her own pace. This workshop will explore the concept of the “learning child” and use interactive, hands-on activities to highlight the six key elements through activities, games, quizzes, and ideas for young children that can be shared with parents, caregivers, and educators. In addition, methods to assess programming success will be explored.

Think Like A Spy: Bulletproofing Your Identity



Truffles, West Tower, Blue Level

John Sileo

President, Sileo Inc.

Identity theft is America’s fastest growing crime and a growing concern for all Americans. This crime not only affects families but has legal and financial liability implications for every organization as well. Good personal privacy habits lead to safer data within businesses and safe data are profitable data. This presentation will give participants knowledge, skills, and a plan of action to proactively protect valuable information assets. This presentation will walk participants through what it feels like to become a victim of identity theft and why that matters. The result is a safer individual who understands the importance of bringing good data privacy habits with him or her to work.

Breakout Session Three: Tuesday, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Five Sides To Every Story: How the Pentagon Can Help You



ALL
AUDIENCES

Addams, West Tower, Silver Level

Barbara Thompson

Director, Office of Family Policy/Children and Youth, Military Community & Family Policy

Carolyn Stevens

Senior Program Analyst, Office of Family Policy/Children and Youth, Military Community & Family Policy

Learn about initiatives and resources provided by Military Community & Family Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense to support military members and their families. Participants will share challenges they face serving military members and their families, brainstorm solutions to build awareness and increased access of support systems, and discuss promising practices for future implementation.

Helping Make the Connection for Military Families



ALL
AUDIENCES

Atlanta, West Tower, Gold Level

Dr. Charles Patterson

Director, Training and Transition, Military Impacted Schools Association

Education is a key component in the quality of life for military families. The Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA), a nonprofit organization composed of approximately sixty heavily-impacted school districts, serves as a link between military families and schools. MISA strives to support schools, both on and off of installations, to ensure an understanding of the unique needs of military children and families. There are many demands on military families and school districts play a critical role in providing stability for these families. Information will be shared with participants about the latest research on connectedness, as well as specific programs, trainings, and resources that are available to better serve military children. Dr. Patterson will highlight research that shows a child that is connected will be less likely to engage in poor choices, illegal activities, and will in fact increase achievement. Following discussions, participants will gain an understanding of effective practices that school personnel, military leaders, and all persons serving in positions that offer support and information to military families can utilize in providing quality educational experiences for military children.

Ten Practical Tips for Working with the Families of America's Fallen Warriors



ALL
AUDIENCES

Burnham, West Tower, Silver Level

Joanne M. Steen, MS, NCC

Co-author, *Military Widow: A Survival Guide*; President, Grief Solutions, LLC

This presentation will help participants discover the dos and don'ts of effective casualty response and become skilled at what to say and do when working with the families of America's fallen warriors. Participants will learn the key factors that complicate a military loss that are usually not found in the civilian sector. Through this workshop, participants will understand how surviving families, units and commands, and all caring volunteers are affected by the

components of military grief; what works when dealing with surviving military families; and how to help survivors and military personnel in the days, weeks, and months ahead. Benefit from the collective experience and wise advice of those who have taken casualties on their watch and take away practical, no-nonsense tips to use again and again when in the presence of grieving families, both military and civilian.

Parents as Teachers – Heroes at Home



Columbian, West Tower, Bronze Level

Kate DeKoning

Director, Heroes at Home Military Programs, National Center for Parents as Teachers

Shirley Young

Program Specialist, Center for Expertise, U.S. Army Child, Youth and School Services

Parents as Teachers-Heroes at Home (PAT-HAH) is a voluntary parent education and family support program designed to serve military families who are expecting a child or who have a child birth to kindergarten entry age. This Department of Defense (DoD) initiative is offered in an effort to mitigate the risk factors of military lifestyle such as repeat deployments, separation, and geographical single parenting, as well as to facilitate continued connections between service members and their children during separations. This workshop will provide a program history and overview of services showing how PAT-HAH builds on and enhances existing military support programs without duplicating existing services. Participants will have ample opportunity to participate in Q&A, to review curriculum and other related material, and to see many success stories.

A Collaborative Effort for Providing Comprehensive Care for Sexual Assault Patients



Field, West Tower, Silver Level

Allyson Cordoni

Clinical Coordinator, The SAFE Place, Tripler Army Medical Center

The SAFE Place at Tripler Army Medical Center was designed to meet the needs of the sexually assaulted patient, adults as well as children, by coordinating services with all branches of government. The SAFE place provides services to the sexually abused patient and his/her family that consist of a medical evaluation, a social work evaluation, victim advocate services, chaplain services, law enforcement participation, and medical follow-up services. A unique service provided by the SAFE Place is the follow-up exam, which is completed two to four weeks after the initial assault and is coordinated with the victim advocates present at the follow-up exam. At this visit, medical findings are reviewed, photo documentation is repeated if necessary, and counseling services are provided. This presentation will describe how the SAFE place functions to provide comprehensive care to victims for sexual abuse and serves to educate others on the comprehensive care of the sexual assault patient from initial presentation to follow-up examinations.

Navigating the Perfect Financial Storm: DoD Resources and Programs that Support Mission Readiness by Promoting the Personal Financial Readiness of our Service Members and Families



Gold Coast, West Tower, Bronze Level

Dave Julian

Director, Office of Personal Finance, OSD

Today's economic environment is posing challenges not seen in this country in decades. The financial behavior of the average American coupled with numerous crises involving credit, banking, savings, employment, and home ownership have resulted in an economic storm. Out of necessity, unlike the average American, our service members and families have access to programs, resources, and protections that can help them safely navigate this perfect financial storm and continue to successfully execute their mission. This presentation will discuss existing Department of Defense (DoD) programs which offer world-class financial assistance through online resources and counseling, such as Military OneSource, but will also discuss new DoD initiatives such as the Financial Readiness Roadshow events and the Personal Financial Counselor (PFC) program. Participants, regardless of their particular family support specialty, will emerge from this presentation with an enhanced understanding of helpful financial resources to which they can refer members and families. As is widely recognized, financial difficulties manifest themselves in all areas of family life, and in many cases, financial problems are often identified as a root cause for family strife and crises and vice versa.

Living in the New Normal



Grand Suite 5, East Tower, Gold Level

Dr. Mary Keller

President and CEO, Military Child Education Coalition

This workshop will draw upon the Military Child Education Coalition's (MCEC) six years of research and experience through the *Living In the New Normal* system. This initiative focuses efforts on both resilience and risk protection factors for children and youth. By interacting with resources, sharing ideas, and experiencing selections from the MCEC's repertoire of strategies, a variety of methods will be developed to assist helping professionals and community members in supporting parents in ensuring military children thrive through both good and challenging times. Participants will have interactive opportunities to apply lessons learned and tools to enhance their programs.

Operation: Military Kids Building Community Connections



McCormick, West Tower, Silver Level

Mona M. Johnson, MA, CPP, CDP

Director, Learning and Teaching Support, Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Kevin Wright, M.Ed.

Program Manager, State 4-H, Washington State University Extension

Eddy Mentzer

Program Director, 4-H Military Partnerships, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Operation: Military Kids (OMK) develops local community networks in support of the children and youth of deployed military service members. Participants will interactively learn about two of OMK's core elements that are used to raise community awareness of the needs of military children and youth and mobilize them to act locally. *Ready, Set, Go!* Training attunes community members to the unique needs of children and youth with a parent or loved one involved in the deployment cycle. Communities might be general in nature (youth workers, clergy, service clubs, neighbors) or specific (school counselors, Boy & Girls Club staff, 4-H staff). As more military families live off-installation and geographically dispersed Guard and Reserve members deploy, the education of community members about the effects of deployment on the family is more important than ever. *Hero Packs* are another tool to educate local non-military youth about the deployment cycle and engage them in supporting their military peers. The backpacks contain fun items and materials to stay in touch with a deployed loved one. Youth assemble backpacks and write letters to the military child expressing admiration for the sacrifice they are making.

Deployment and Military Life



ALL
AUDIENCES

New Orleans, West Tower, Gold Level

Brian Campbell

Relationship Manager, Military OneSource

Kim Gates

Relationship Manager, Military OneSource

Deployment is a unique and challenging aspect of military life and its impact on individuals, families, and communities is almost always immediate. The demands placed on service members and their families can lead to emotional, relationship, financial, and stress-related problems. With the continuation of multiple sustained deployments, these demands are heightened and the demand for assistance grows as well. Military OneSource provides tools and support for service members and their families and for the service organizations that provide assistance. This session will be an integrated and interactive overview of resources and services targeted to service members and families throughout the deployment cycle. The presentation will focus on delivery methods, tools, and partnership opportunities with existing installation and command-based family support organizations. Specific topics will include Military OneSource event-request and support procedures, counseling and consultation services, family communication tools, relationships, financial planning, crisis response, and new initiatives.

Marine Corps Community Services "Are You Listening?"



ACTIVE
DUTY RESERVE
/ GUARD

Ogden, West Tower, Silver Level

D. Seabrease Morsi

Recreation Program Analyst, Semper Fit Branch, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps

Ronnie Edwards

Substance Abuse Program Analyst, Prevention and Intervention, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps

Health behaviors such as suicide, substance abuse, nutrition, and behavior/lifestyle choices affect Marines and family members. Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS) provides programs and services that are the first line of prevention to health behaviors. MCCS programs and facilities have a clientele who develop interpersonal relationships with the staff. "Are You Listening?" provides the tools to learn how to actively listen to information being shared, identify warning signs of distress, and have the resources available to refer an individual if needed. It is not about counseling or playing psychiatrist. It is not about alerting the chain of command to behaviors and warning signs. It is learning how to actively and positively interact with Marines and family members and effectively listen to

and understand the needs of those communicating with the staff. At the conclusion of "Are You Listening?" participants will be provided with the broadest understanding of their own agency and resources within MCCS.

Navy Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS)



ACTIVE
DUTY

San Francisco, West Tower, Gold Level

Pam McClelland

Preparedness and Response Manager, Navy Family for Fleet and Family Readiness

How do I get help during a natural disaster? Where are my families and what do they need? After Katrina trying to answer questions like these for the Navy Family and Navy Leadership was very difficult. That has changed since the development of the Navy Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS). NFAAS is a web-based tool that standardizes a method for the Navy to account for, assess, manage, and monitor the recovery process of personnel and their families affected by a manmade or natural disaster. This session will explain how the Navy Family program used the tool as part of its disaster response process from the last storm season to include statistics and lessons learned.

MyCAA, Spouse Employment



ALL
AUDIENCES

Truffles, West Tower, Blue Level

Kathleen A. Ott

Director, Talent Acquisition, Development and Management

Pamela Smith

Program Manager, MyCAA, Military OneSource

The Department of Defense (DoD) remains strongly committed to helping military spouses find employment, new hiring authorities, new federal opportunities, and Portable Career fields. For those who are interested in pursuing such careers, DoD is expanding the opportunities in federal government and Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) because it is a proven fact that the more opportunities, training, and education job seekers have, the more likely they will be hired into better jobs at higher salaries.

Understanding the Veterans Administration's Federal Recovery Coordination Program



ALL
AUDIENCES

Water Tower, West Tower, Bronze Level

Karen Guice, MD, MPP

Executive Director, Federal Recovery Coordination Program (FRCP)

This presentation will describe the FRCP and its role in assisting severely wounded, ill, or injured service members, veterans, and their families through the process of recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration. Established in 2008, the program assists clients and their family members in accessing programs, benefits, and services to accomplish identified goals. Each client is assigned to a Federal Recovery Coordinator (FRC), who works with the client's clinical and non-clinical case managers across federal, state, and local agencies to coordinate activities to reach the goals. FRCs remain with the client and family coordinating benefits and care across all transitions, including from active duty to veteran status. The presentation will provide participants with information about the program including how to refer individuals.

Breakout Session Four: **Wednesday, 10:15 – 11:30 a.m.**

Improving Geographic and Financial Accessibility to Civilian Behavioral Health Providers



ACTIVE
DUTY

RESERVE
/ GUARD

Burnham, West Tower, Silver Level

Robert S. Goodale

Program Manager, Citizen Soldier Support Program, National Demonstration Project

The presentation will focus on improving military family access to civilian behavioral health providers and physicians whose offices are within thirty minutes of a family seeking care, who accept TRICARE, and who understand the psychological issues facing Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) service members and their families. It will be based on the Citizen Soldier Support Program, a behavioral health program in North Carolina that has provided continuing education/training to over 2000 providers, added over 125 Behavioral Health Providers in North Carolina since January 2008, and created an easily searchable provider database for soldiers and their families. Partners include VISN 6 MIRECC, NC AHEC, MHA-NC, Community Counseling Center, Camp Lejeune, the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, the Brain Injury Association of North Carolina, and the North Carolina National Guard among others.

Partnering with County Government to Deliver Health and Human Services



ACTIVE
DUTY

RESERVE
/ GUARD

Dusable, West Tower, Silver Level

Jim Sawyer

Director, National Association of Counties (NACo) Financial Services Corporation

When the need for health and social services arises for veterans, military service members and their families will often look first to their local government for assistance. Counties across the nation have for years been responsible for delivering community-based services and have partnered with multiple levels of government to provide resources to their constituents. Helping professionals and others on the front line need to know how counties can help their clients and should be able to make helpful referrals early in the process before issues and situations become complex crises. Workshop participants will learn how county governments partner with other levels of government to ensure a better quality of life for their citizens. They will also learn how The National Association of Counties (NACo) advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public's understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides valuable services to save counties and taxpayers money.

Innovative Opportunities to Improve Daily Involvement and Support for Military Families: The Family Fridge Project



ALL
AUDIENCES

Field, West Tower, Silver Level

Meg Small, Ph.D.

Research Associate, Pennsylvania State University

Lauri Hershner, MBA

Consumer Insights Strategist, LaunchForce

How can social media technology be used to improve daily life for military parents and children? What should a new interactive platform look like? How can we creatively engage parents and children to maximize its use? Using new media-rich tools on an interactive web-based platform, the Family Fridge Project seeks to translate prevention research into applications that facilitate meaningful connections between parents and children and support health-enhancing family processes. The Fridge also facilitates parents' direct access to professionals, providing programs to military families, other experts, and a community of users for practical guidance and support. After a short presentation about the protective effects of parent-child connectedness and a brief introduction to the Family Fridge concept, attendees will participate in a discussion about daily life for military parents and children including how families are currently using services and tools to communicate, opportunities and challenges unique to military life, communication patterns and styles among family members, unmet needs that exist, and how parents connect with others including those responsible for family and youth programs. Participants will increase their understanding about important protective factors for families and will have the opportunity to shape the look, feel, and functionality of the Family Fridge.

Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment Services for Adolescent Dependents



ALL
AUDIENCES

Gold Coast, West Tower, Bronze Level

Karen Medbury LCSW, CAS

Clinical Supervisor, USAFE, Adolescent Substance Abuse Counseling Services (ASACS)

Patrick Bannister

Vice President; Senior Program Manager, Adolescent Substance Abuse Counseling Services (ASACS)

Adolescence is a time of turmoil and change in the best of circumstances. Add the extra stressors of frequent moves, deployed parents, and adapting to new cultures and teenagers can end up having some significant issues. Do you ever feel like the teens on your base, in your community, or even in your home need help, but you are not sure where to turn? This presentation will inform participants of the services that are available for adolescents and how to access them. ASACS's program provides everything from Prevention, preparing adolescents for life's challenges to Treatment services for adolescents already in trouble. As a result of this workshop, participants will be aware of the services available, learn how to access them, and how to recognize when an adolescent is in need of help. Participants will actively engage in some of the skill building exercises offered to adolescents and gain an understanding of what it takes to successfully navigate through the rocky teenage years in today's world.

A Brief Overview of the Non-Medical Counseling Options Offered by the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (MC&FP)



ALL
AUDIENCES

Grand Suite 5, East Tower, Gold Level

Kelly Mohondro, Ph.D.

Program Analyst, Office of Counseling, OSD

This workshop is designed for support staff working with service members and their families. The goal of the workshop is to provide a brief overview of the non-medical, short-term, solution focused counseling options available through Military OneSource and the Military and Family Life Consultant (MFLC) program. These programs are

available to the active force, the Guard and Reserve Components, and their families. This non-medical support is aimed at preventing the development or exacerbation of mental health conditions that may detract from military and family readiness. Tailored, focused, relevant, and timely non-medical counseling support enhances coping skills, builds resiliency, and fills a crucial gap in service for service members and their family members. Such high quality counseling programs fulfill a national commitment to service member and family support.

Empowering Volunteers for Success



Grand Suite 3, East Tower, Gold Level

Jenny Jordan

Volunteer and Teen Program Specialist, Georgia 4-H Faculty, University of Georgia

Casey Mull

Military Program Liaison, Georgia 4-H, University of Georgia

Successful community programs are built with the incorporation of many people. In the case of military program support, volunteers are crucial. Whether military family members or community members, volunteers are key in stretching the resources and meeting the needs of military personnel and families. Through this session, participants will engage in activities to identify volunteer needs, outline volunteer recruitment, and plan for the facilitation of a volunteer program. This session will provide tips from the field and share from the experience of others who manage volunteer programs.

Examining Cutting-Edge Personnel Development Strategies that Improve Military Skills for Engaging Communities in Bolstering Service Member and Family Resiliency and Readiness



McCormick, West Tower, Silver Level

Barbara M. Hall

Community Development Director, Citizen Soldier Support Program

Susan Kerner-Hoeg

Director, Military Relations, Citizen Soldier Support Program, University of North Carolina –Chapel Hill

This workshop will be divided into three mini presentation and feedback sessions about strategies to build the professional skills and competencies of military personnel and contractors who have job responsibilities for engaging local communities in bolstering resiliency and readiness throughout the deployment cycle. Each mini session will consist of a seven to ten minute participant experience to increase familiarity with a different Citizen-Soldier Support Program (CSSP)-UNC/IDB strategy. Participants will actively engage in the experience and then have a moderated discussion about it. Strategies to discuss include a suite of online courses that build understanding and skill levels in building local partnerships centered on service member and family needs, classroom training sessions in Building Community Partnership and Confident Communication, and coaching/mentoring for military personnel by seasoned professionals in community partnerships.

Systems Navigation for Military Children with Autism and Other Significant Disabilities: Key Marathon Skills for Families and EFMP Managers to Improve Quality of Life



ALL
AUDIENCES

New Orleans, West Tower, Gold Level

Ann Turnbull

Distinguished Professor of Special Education; Co-Director, Beach Center on Disability; University of Kansas

This interactive workshop will define systems navigation as the process of making wise decisions in creating a coherent set of services and supports across life domains to foster both individual and family quality of life outcomes. The life activity domains that will be addressed include family, daily living, education, community, health and safety, and social. To navigate services (formal, agency-based programs, resources, and funding) and supports (informal programs, resources, and strategies from friends and community citizens), seven key marathon skills will be identified and described: understanding disabilities, networking with progressive and reliable allies, envisioning great expectations, knowing and acting on rights, knowing evidence-based practice, mapping and accessing services, and keeping records. This workshop will discuss the challenges and successful solutions for each of the seven skills and the best available resources from the civilian disability community. The workshop will include small group activities to provide opportunities for immediate application.

Recent Findings of FINRA Foundation Research on the Financial Literacy and Behavior of Military Service Members and Their Spouses



ALL
AUDIENCES

Ogden, West Tower, Silver Level

Geraldine M. Walsh

Vice President; Deputy Director, FINRA Investor Education

The FINRA Investor Education Foundation will present and deliver findings from the 2008 Military Financial Confidence Survey, outline the parameters of the 2009 Military Financial Capability Survey, and discuss planned research concerning service member participation in the Thrift Savings Program and the impact of financial education on decisions to enroll.

Care Through Partnership: Overview of Transition and Care Coordination Programs



ACTIVE
DUTY RESERVE
/ GUARD

Truffles, West Tower, Blue Level

Ron Horne

Deputy Director, Transition Assistance Program, Office of Transition Policy & Care Coordination

Chartered in December 2008, the Transition and Care Coordination office works to ensure equitable, consistent, high-quality care coordination and transition support for members of the armed forces including Wounded Warriors and their families through appropriate interagency collaboration, responsive policy, and effective program oversight. Representatives from the OSD Office of Transition Policy and Care Coordination will highlight several programs,

resources, and tools available for service members and their families including the Transition Assistance Program, Recovery Coordination Program, and the National Resource Directory website (www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov).

Healthy Habits: Change is Great! True or False?



Water Tower, West Tower, Bronze Level

Sherri Hrovatin

Relationship Manager, Military OneSource

Is change a good thing? What type of loss is an accomplishment? What sort of reduction is cause for celebration? This workshop will discuss how to bring about changes for the better and the tools that can make it happen. Lose that extra weight, reduce the stress in your life, and reap the benefits of increased energy, strengthened muscles, and a well-toned self-image. Military OneSource has tools available such as Healthy Habits Coaching, Health Libraries, Weight Loss Toolkits, Tip Sheets on Exercise, Nutrition, Stress and Wellness, YMCA Programs, and Solution Focused Counseling that can help people achieve victory over the challenges that oppose change. At the completion of this session, participants will have defined their personal goals for change and will be familiar with a suite of tools to help reach those goals.

Breakout Session Five: **Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

Group Interventions to Strengthen Child and Parent Resilience in the Face of Deployment



Burnham, West Tower, Silver Level

Stan F. Whitsett, Ph. D.

Pediatric Psychologist; Assistant Director, School-Based Mental Health Program, Department of Psychiatry, Tripler Army Medical Center

Joana Cuevas, LCSW

Clinical Social Worker, School Mental Health Team, Tripler Army Medical Center

Throughout the multiple phases of the deployment cycle, military families must cope with the challenges of separation, absence, reunion, and the reintegration of a significant family member. The struggles associated with these issues are compounded by the multiple deployments characteristic of current military life. This workshop will present information about a series of group behavioral health programs that have been developed for military family members, both youth and parents, to address these challenges and build effective coping skills. Using empirically-supported strategies, the group programs focus on four areas including: commonality of experience, healthy connections, communication, and coping skills. Unique groups are devised for each phase of the deployment cycle, and for three age groups of youth (six to eight; nine to twelve; thirteen to sixteen years) and parents. This workshop will provide specific information about formation and execution of the group programs, including illustrations of group themes, activities, challenges, and outcomes. Through the workshop, participants will have the material and information necessary to implement similar group programs in their home environments.

Communicating about Money with the Next Generation



Dusable, West Tower, Silver Level

Mary Bell

Technical Advisor, Office of Personal Finance, OSD

Kari Schaeffler

Senior Trainer, KPS Consulting Group, LLC

Many people seem more comfortable talking about religion and politics than about money. In this presentation, participants will learn how to change the stigma of personal finance and start communicating today about the taboo subject of money. Learn the financial behaviors and associated stereotypes of each generation and how to effectively bridge those real or perceived gaps. Learn new, innovative methods of communication that will really hit home with young service members. It is time to start talking about what no one wants to talk about....MONEY!

Overview of the Impact Aid Program



Field, West Tower, Silver Level

Catherine Schagh

Director, Impact Aid Program

This presentation will provide important information to education-related service personal on the U.S. Department of Education's Impact Aid Program, which provides funding to federally impacted local education agencies (LEAs), including those LEAs that are military-connected. The objectives of the presentation are to raise awareness of the program and provide information on how LEAs use the funding and the basic components of the program.

The Dollars and Sense of Working Outside the Home for Military Spouses



Gold Coast, West Tower, Bronze Level

Sue Hoppin

Deputy Director, Spouse Outreach, Benefits Information Department, Military Officers Association of America

This workshop will walk participants through a common sense approach to assist military spouses in evaluating the financial and non-financial pros and cons to working outside the home to include analyzing how much they will actually bring home after all of their expenses.

Schools, Parents and Military Services – The Critical Communication Triangle



Grand Suite 5, East Tower, Gold Level

Connie Gillette

Communications Specialist, Educational Partnerships Branch, Department of Defense Education Activity

Elaine Kanellis

Deputy Chief, Communications, Department of Defense Education Activity

This presentation will share information on how to communicate effectively with public schools and with the military parents of the children attending public schools. With over forty years of communications experience between the two presenters, they will highlight tools that work and explore ideas for future communication methods with the group. The presentation will also address ways that military parents can reach out to the services to find out what resources are available to them.

Building Family Resiliency: A Best Practice Model – Project FOCUS (Families Over Coming Under Stress)



Grand Suite 3, East Tower, Gold Level

Kirsten Woodward, LCSW

Director, Project Focus; Coordinator, Family Programs, Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Dr. Patricia Lester, M.D.

Director, Project FOCUS; Professor, Psychiatry, University of California-Los Angeles

FOCUS (Families Over Coming Under Stress) is a family-centered resiliency training program based on evidence-based interventions that enhance understanding, psychological health, and developmental outcomes for highly stressed children and families. FOCUS has been adapted for military families facing multiple deployments, combat operational stress, and physical injuries in a family member. Through collaboration, education, promotion, and leadership support, FOCUS is established at the installations within the context of “family friendly settings.” FOCUS sites are located outside of traditional mental health clinics so family members do not associate FOCUS Resiliency Training with mental health problems. FOCUS is grounded in empirical evidence demonstrating that family-centered interventions that enhance parenting and parent-child relationships for highly stressed families (families affected by war, parental depression, and serious medical illness/loss) promote increased understanding, positive emotional adjustment, and positive developmental outcomes in children and parents.

MyCAA, Spouse Employment



McCormick, West Tower, Silver Level

Kathleen A. Ott

Director, Talent Acquisition, Development and Management

Pamela Smith

Program Manager, MyCAA, Military OneSource

The Department of Defense (DoD) remains strongly committed to helping military spouses find employment, new hiring authorities, new federal opportunities, and Portable Career fields. For those who are interested in pursuing such careers, DoD is expanding the opportunities in federal government and Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) because it is a proven fact that the more opportunities, training, and education job seekers have, the more likely they will be hired into better jobs at higher salaries.

TRICARE and the Military Family



ALL
AUDIENCES

New Orleans, West Tower, Gold Level

Margaret Franklin

Assistant Reserve Liaison Officer; Beneficiary Education Coordinator, TriWest Healthcare Alliance

Learn how to navigate the TRICARE programs, whether active duty or Guard and Reserve, active or inactive, from the beginning of the deployment cycle to the end. Learn how to help family members find their way through this sometimes confusing program. Some of the topics that will be addressed in this workshop are TRICARE options, early eligibility, mobilization, behavioral health, transitional coverage, TRICARE Reserve Select, and the road to retirement. This workshop will take an energetic dive into the TRICARE world and unravel the mystery to understanding the military healthcare system.

Strengthening Families Initiative



ACTIVE
DUTY RESERVE
/ GUARD

Ogden, West Tower, Silver Level

Judy Langford

Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of Social Policy

David W. Lloyd

Director, Family Advocacy Program, OSD

Identify evidence-supported universal strategies to strengthen families in daily work with them. In this workshop, participants will learn how to implement the national Strengthening Families Initiative, through which more than half the states are building protective factors in their early care and education agencies and other service systems that serve young children and their families. Because the Strengthening Families approach can be delivered by diverse programs and staff who work with children and their families, participants will learn how to join with parent groups, home visiting programs, early childhood initiatives, professional development efforts, foundations, and federal and state agencies who have adopted the Strengthening Families protective factors framework to create more effective collaboration across services. The approach facilitates optimal development for young children and reduces harm to them.

Warrior Adventure Quest and Soldier Reset



ACTIVE
DUTY

San Francisco, West Tower, Gold Level

Elizabeth J. Willis

Chief, Marketing Research and Analysis Division, FMWRC Marketing Directorate,
Family and Morale and Welfare Command

The Warrior Adventure Quest (WAQ) program is a high-adventure, outdoor recreation program meant to provide a way to mitigate the stressors soldiers may have after deployment. The WAQ experience provides a high-adventure activity that resembles the rush to which soldiers sometimes become accustomed. The WAQ program is designed to support the soldier during reset. This workshop will present an overview description of the WAQ program and will detail WAQ's methods for measuring and reporting program success.

Passport Toward Success: A Reintegration Support Program for Military Families



Truffles, West Tower, Blue Level

Kathy Broniarczyk

Outreach Director, Military Family Research Institute, Purdue University

Dr. Steven R. Wilson

Professor, Department of Communication, Purdue University

This workshop will introduce participants to a program developed by the Military Family Research Institute for use during reintegration drill weekends with families with children aged five to seventeen. Based on scientific insights about learning and resilience, the program helps children to develop skills and provides families with opportunities for fun and meaningful interaction. Community partnerships are built into the delivery model.

Breakout Session Six: **Thursday, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.**

Online Networking



Burnham, West Tower, Silver Level

Jesse Shepherd

Relationship Manager, Military OneSource

How do social networking tools, such as Facebook, MySpace, tweets, and blogs help to reach Generation Y service members and families? How can they help people stay connected and informed? This presentation will discuss some currently popular online networking tools and how to put them to use. By the end of this session, participants will be familiar with Military OneSource's TroopTube, webinars, discussion boards, podcasts, and blogging. Participants will also be able to define social networking community and Web 2.0.

Strengthening Families Program: For Parents and Youth 10-14



Columbian, West Tower, Bronze Level

Cathy Hockaday

State Specialist, Extension to Families, Iowa State University

The Strengthening Families Program: For Parents and Youth 10-14 (SFP 10-14) is a parent, youth, and family skills-building curriculum designed to prevent teen substance abuse and other behavior problems, strengthen parenting skills, and build family strengths. In this program, parents and youth meet for seven sessions to practice skills, play games, and do family projects. SFP 10-14 has been proven effective in delaying the onset of adolescent substance use, lowering levels of aggression, increasing the resistance to peer pressure in youth, and increasing the ability of parents/caregivers to set appropriate limits and show affection to and support of their children. Workshop participants will learn details about the curriculum and the sixteen years of research conducted on the program. Participants will partake in several of the interactive games and projects that are used with the families. SFP 10-14 is currently being used in several states and in Germany with military families. Participants will learn about program adaptations for military families with a deployed parent.

Supporting Grieving Families: YOU Can Make a Difference



ALL
AUDIENCES

Dusable, West Tower, Silver Level

Darcie D. Sims

Director of Training, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

This session will provide information, tools, and skills for the development of community strategic interventions and support systems for families coping with change and loss. This workshop will help those who work with families establish new norms in their lives following the death of a loved one.

Military Child Education Coalition: College Readiness Beyond Class Rank and GPAs



ALL
AUDIENCES

Field, West Tower, Silver Level

Dr. Mary Keller

President; CEO, Military Child Education Coalition

Dr. Dave Splitek

Vice President, Professional Development, Military Child Education Coalition

Participants will learn about four components of college readiness and how those components translate into real life learning. This presentation will also focus on the impact of mobility, emphasizing military-related moves, on high school graduation and strategies to employ to lessen this impact. Participants should be ready for active learning and engagement with the presenter and fellow participants. Participants will internalize key ideas that they can turn into programmatic actions in their own schools and work environments.

Bridging the Gap to Military, Government, and Community Resources for Military Families



ALL
AUDIENCES

Grand Suite 5, East Tower, Gold Level

Adrien F.C. Starks

Chief, Civic Outreach Team, OASD (PA) Community Relations Directorate

One of the keys to successful family readiness is knowing where to find available resources and how to avoid being scammed. Whether the need is financial management, family counseling, employment assistance, child care, lawn care, or assistance for survivors and wounded warriors, there are resources available. Through this presentation, helping professionals will find a valuable addition to their toolkit that may open more opportunities to help meet military family needs. Learn to be an ambassador and help shift the Department of Defense's (DoD) paradigm of "caring for our service members" so that no one falls through the cracks. Active duty, National Guard, Reservists, family members, and volunteers will learn to empower themselves and others with knowledge of military, government, community, and citizen resources. Learn when and how to bridge the resource gap.

Promoting Resilience and Reducing Risk for Warriors, Families, and Communities Following a Suicide Death



ACTIVE
DUTY

RESERVE
/ GUARD

Grand Suite 3, East Tower, Gold Level

Kenneth Norton

Program Director, Connect Suicide Prevention, National Alliance on Mental Illness

The increase in suicides among our active duty military, Reserves, and veterans is cause for concern. Because knowing someone who has died by suicide is one of the highest risk factors for suicide, action taken to reduce risk and promote healing (postvention) is an essential component of comprehensive suicide prevention efforts. Family Readiness program staff are increasingly being called upon to assist in the aftermath of a suicide death and play an important role in an effective postvention response. However, they often lack specific knowledge and training in this area. Designated a National Best Practice Program in suicide Postvention, The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI NH's) Connect Project works with key service providers to promote an integrated response following a suicide death. Participants will learn about suicide contagion and increased risk after a suicide; the impact suicide has on the family, fellow soldiers, and first responders; the unique aspects of grief and complicated bereavement following a suicide; and strategies for reducing risk and promoting resilience following a suicide death.

Introduction to Army ThriveSphere: The Collaborative Marriage Reflectment



ALL
AUDIENCES

McCormick, West Tower, Silver Level

Sherod Miller, Ph.D.

CEO, Interpersonal Communication Programs, Inc.

Chaplain (LTC) Michael E. Strohm

Family Ministries Officer, Army Chief of Chaplains Office, Washington, DC

This interactive workshop will present Army ThriveSphere, the new, powerful, online, self-partner relationship awareness tool that graphically gives a "snapshot" of a couple's life together on a single page. Composed of forty-eight interconnected "nodes" or questions, a couple's "sphere-chart" provides a practical map to facilitate productive, couple-centered, strength-oriented, solution-focused relationship conversation. Partners can see where they are, where they want to be, and how to get there. The tool enables a facilitator to accomplish more with a couple in the time available. The tool is designed for pre and post deployment and re-integration, marriage and relationship counseling, and pre-marital education and counseling. Couples can retake a ThriveSphere three times during a year to monitor change and growth in their relationship. Facilitator training is conveniently available over the Internet as e-learning from anywhere in the world. Workshop participants will preview and discuss several actual Army couple ThriveSphere charts.

Essential Life Skills for Military Families: A Reserve and National Guard Focused Program Integrating Community Educators



New Orleans, West Tower, Gold Level

Elizabeth B. Carroll, JD CFLE.

Associate Professor, Department of Child Development and Family Relations, East Carolina University;
Principal Investigator, Healthy Marriage Life Skills: A Family Readiness Program

Catherine M. Smith, RN, MS, CFLE, NFA CDON-LTC

Lead Family Life Educator

Andrew Behnke, Ph.D., C.F.LE*

Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Family and Consumers Science Department,
North Carolina State University

This interactive presentation will include an overview of the Essential Life Skills for Military Families (ELSFMF) program including goals of the curriculum, program history, implementation strategies, logistics, philosophy of learning, and evaluation. ELSFMF is a research-based curriculum developed specifically for Reserve Component and National Guard members and their spouses or partners to educate them to meet the unique challenges they experience. The ELSMF workshop series is designed to help service members and their families learn to build stronger, more resilient relationships; balance military demands and basic family needs; develop sound financial practices; strengthen their network of family, friends, and community resources; and better understand routine family legal issues. The program goal is to strengthen marriages and couple relationships by strengthening relationship skills. It is interactive, fun, and engaging. It aims to empower couples to communicate more effectively about money, separation, and legal issues. Participants at this presentation will be informed about the context within which the program was developed, experience an overview of each learning module, learn about marketing strategies and the specialized instructors' training, and receive a brief overview of the evaluation results.

Short Term Solution Focused Online Consultation (STSF-OC): IM+EAP=MOS4U



Ogden, West Tower, Silver Level

Jeff Sensenig

Clinical Supervisor, Short Term Solution Focused Team

Krystal Shiver

Relationship Manager, Military OneSource

Military OneSource has developed an online consultation tool utilizing Short Term Solution Focused (STSF) principles that is state of the art and cutting edge to allow service members and their families to access support no matter the time or place. Online Consultation allows for the ultimate convenience of registering and scheduling an appointment with a licensed and/ or CEAP certified clinician. The appointment yields a real-time chat session. The content of the presentation will reveal how online consultation/ real time consultation is an invaluable tool to meet the unique and ever-changing needs of our military service members and their families.

Coping with Casualties



San Francisco, West Tower, Gold Level

Bonnie Carroll

Director, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

This inspirational workshop will provide valuable insight on helping military members and surviving families cope with a traumatic death. Participants will gain important resources for all aspects of casualty care and learn how to build resiliency within a unit. During this training, participants will also gain coping strategies that will enable them to care for caregivers including family readiness teams. Find hope through understanding and take the time to care for yourself as you care for others.

Art as a Method of Coping



Skyway 272, East Tower, Blue Level

Heidi Torres Smith, ATR, LPC

Art Therapist; Program Analyst, Office of Children & Youth, OSD

Art therapy is a mental health profession that uses the creative process of art making to improve and enhance the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of individuals of all ages. It is based on the belief that the creative process involved in artistic self-expression helps people to resolve conflicts and problems, develop interpersonal skills, manage behavior, reduce stress, increase self-esteem and self-awareness, and achieve insight. This workshop will explore healing qualities of art making and how it can be a helpful tool for help military families, adults and children alike. Participants will learn about the profession of art therapy and will also be given techniques on how to facilitate art making in their setting, as well as identify when professional help may be useful. This session will include an experimental art making component.

Present and Future: DoD Working with State Policymakers



Truffles, West Tower, Blue Level

Ed Kringer

Director, State Liaison and Education Opportunities

This interactive session will begin with a short presentation on the Department of Defense (DoD) key quality of life issues being addressed with state policymakers, followed by a guided discussion to prioritize potential key issues. The session will focus on discussion of the following topics: Which issues have the most impact and should be presented as high priorities to state policymakers? How we can improve our delivery of services to service members and their families through state and local governments and nonprofit organizations? What other issues should be researched and considered?