



REGIONAL JOINT SERVICES FAMILY ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP



Coaching Young Families *Pilot Programs*

Sponsored by The Office of the Secretary of Defense, Military Community & Family Policy (OSD/MC&FP)



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Program Goals

- Reach out to young families to assess needs and offer parenting and child development education, support, counseling, referral and other services, as appropriate.
- Facilitate the connection of young families/new parents to supportive military and civilian resources
- Enhance young military couples' skills and abilities to cope with:
 - Parenting
 - Marriage
 - Deployment cycle
 - Death/grief/loss
- Raise awareness about the effects of deployment and reunification on young children and families.



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Program Description

- Prevention through education and **outreach**
- **Distinct** from and **complementary** to existing installation programs/resources
- Focus on impact of **deployment & reintegration on young families**
- **Inclusive eligibility** for young families
- **Anonymous and private** with relevant exceptions, e.g. child abuse
- **Licensed practitioners** skilled in working with parents and children through educational outreach and **non-medical problem-solving counseling**



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Status – Army

- Title of Pilot: *Outreach to Surviving Spouses with Children 0-5 Years*
- Location: Fort Hood
- Consultants: 2 FTEs
- Status: 1 consultant hired May 2007; Second July 2007



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Status – Air Force

- Title of Pilot: *Fathers & Families*
- Locations: Fort Walton Beach, FL
- Consultants: 2 FTEs
- Status: Fort Walton Beach (Eglin & Hurlburt):
One consultant hired; Second will report 9/4/07



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Status – National Guard

- Title of Pilot: *Coaching Support for Families*
- Locations: State Joint Force Headquarters in WV, NH, TN, AL, VT, OR, and RI; **AK, IN, KY, MN, OH***
- Consultants: 12 FTEs
- Status: Consultants hired for original 7 sites; hiring in process for **5 new sites***.