Department of Defense
Military Family Readiness Council
A Federal Advisory Council -- Providing Independent Advice to SECDEF
Sponsored by USD(P&R) and Supported by ASD(M&RA)

June 9, 2020
Agenda

• Call to Order / Roll Call
• Welcome and Opening Remarks – Chairman
• Administrative Issues / Written Public Submissions
• Focus Area:
  • Community Collaboratives and Partnerships
• Presentations:
  • Building Healthy Military Communities Pilot
  • DoD Collaboration and Partnerships with State Governments
  • Military OneSource – Connecting Our Military Community
• Q & A Session and Council Member Discussion
• Closing Remarks – Chairman
• Meeting Adjourned
Mr. William G. Bushman
PTDO the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
DoD MFRC Chairman

18 Council Members

16 Members present

Support Team

Ms. Melody McDonald  MFRC Human Resource Liaison & Logistics
Mr. Frank Emery     MFRC Travel & Logistics
Mr. Bill Hampton    Alternate Designated Federal Officer
Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mr. William G. Bushman
PTDO the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
DoD MFRC Chairman
DoD MFRC
General Meeting Guidance

1. DoD MFRC Council
   • Congressionally mandated, non-discretionary Federal Advisory Committee
   • Provides independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense
   • DoD MFRC must follow guidelines established by:
     o Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972
     o DoDI 5105.04, DoD Federal Advisory Committee Management Program, August 6, 2007
   • Public may provide written statements for review and consideration
   • DoD MFRC documents are available for review on the DoD MFRC webpage

2. Council membership
   • 18 Council Members (10 required for quorum)
   • 10 USC 1781a(b) as amended
   • Only Members may deliberate and vote
   • A formal motion required to bring an issue to a vote

3. Participation
   • Members, presenters
   • Others (advisors, representatives) if called upon by the Chairman
   • DoD MFRC meetings are open to the public
   • Meetings are not Town Hall meetings unless specifically announced as such
How to Contact the DoD Military Family Readiness Council

**eMail:**

osd.pentagon.ousd-p-r.mbix.family-readiness-council@mail.mil

**Mail:**

Office of Military Family Readiness Policy
Attn: DoD Military Family Readiness Council
4800 Mark Center Drive
Suite 03G15
Alexandria, VA 22350-2300

**MFRC Webpage:**

https://www.militaryonesource.mil/web/mos/military-family-readiness-council
Written Submissions

• Request Information (Slides)
• VA Lessons Learned
• Request for Written Submissions (DHA)
• Request for Written Submissions (SAF/MRR)
• Request for Assistance
• TriCare for Kids Coalition submission / June 9 Meeting
• DoD IG Complaint regarding EFMP/OSN-August 2018
• DoD MFRC Recommendation for 9 June 2020 Meeting
• Submission for Military Family Readiness Council
• DoD MFRC Meeting – 6/9/2020 – Written Statement Submission (PiP)
• DoD MFRC Meeting – 6/9/2020 – White Paper Submission (PiP)
• MAZON submission to MFRC for meeting 06.09.20
• MFRC Submission – Survey recommendation
• EFMP Medical and Family Support integration initiative at JB-MDL
• EFMP Suggested Submissions
Community Collaboratives and Partnerships
Building Healthy Military Communities: Leveraging Civilian and Military Partnerships to Amplify Impact

09 JUN 2020

CAPT Kimberly Elenberg
Director, Total Force Fitness
DHA Public Health Division
Overview of BHMC Pilot

The Building Healthy Military Communities (BHMC) Pilot:

• Is a Congressionally mandated initiative. The pilot is a multi-year effort in seven states and part of a larger effort to achieve Force resiliency and readiness in all three military components: Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard as well as the Recruiting and Cadet Commands.

• Aims to better understand and address unique readiness and well-being challenges facing geographically dispersed Military Service members, their families, and the communities in which they live.

• Takes a data-driven approach to contextualize and geospatially map data, identifying challenges and poor health outcomes by county in alignment to provide targeted interventions.

• Engages Service Leadership, DoD Service Members, their families, and the community to identify capabilities and gaps.

• Builds partnerships at the local, state, and Federal levels to successfully achieve the Pilot aims and amplify impact.

States were selected based on several factors including geography, Service member population density, Service diversity, the presence of Active Duty and/or Reserve Component units, under-represented minorities, and documentation of poorer Health Related Quality of Life (HRQoL), which is used as a proxy measure for readiness.
The CR-ODD helps to identify areas of high Reserve Component populations and target the unique health challenges to the cohort in this area.

Datasets Evaluated:

- The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care
- American Community Survey
- BRFSS
- HRSA
- CMS
- USDA
- DMDC
- CDC's National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program
BHMC Holistically Supports the DoD Community

To support the DoD Community as a whole, the BHMC pilot broadens the DoD approach to understanding and addressing the needs and challenges of geographically dispersed Service members, recruits and their families. Drilling down from taking a national or regional approach, BHMC is focused strategically on the DoD, state and local communities’ needs and resources.

### Strategic
- State Health & Economic Improvement Planning Boards
- Governor Initiatives
- NGO Partnerships

### Tactical
- Family Assistance Centers
- Family Readiness Programs
- Partnerships for food assistance, childcare, transportation, spousal employment etc.
Importance of Leveraging Diverse Partnerships

- Outside of installations, states and counties lack comprehensive awareness of which localities are most densely populated with Service members and by extension, the needs in these areas and the partners responsible for meeting those needs.

- BHMC State Coordinators (SCs) serve as a central hub to facilitate connections and awareness between the collective DoD community in that state and, non-governmental organizations, national, state, local, and tribal partners. They assist non-DoD stakeholders to better understand military culture and needs.

- SCs amplify impact of existing community resources and forge new partnerships to support Service members and their families.

- Supporting military families is a shared responsibility and SCs work closely with a variety of national, state, and local partners, including Federal agencies, State Health Departments, local schools, colleges and universities, parks, foodbanks and food distribution centers. Some examples include:

  **Example National Partnerships**
  - National Association of County and City Health Officials
  - Building Healthy Military Communities
  - American Red Cross
  - PsychHub

  **Example State-Specific Partnerships**
  - American Veterans AMVETS
  - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  - Military OneSource
  - Veterans Affairs CSA-ETR
  - National Association of County & City Health Officials
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Pilot has identified community concerns that are legislative impediments to readiness and resiliency. Bi-directional communication with the Defense State Liaison Office (DSLO) helps to address these issues.

To increase state awareness of military-connected populations, BHMC’s Oklahoma State Coordinator has been working with DSLO to bolster their “Ask the Question” campaign, a program that state agencies are now implementing as part of their client/consumer intake processes to ask military Service members and their families about their service involvement to better connect them to resources in their communities.

- Instead of asking about Veteran status, the question has been modified to: “Have you or a member of your immediate family ever served in the military?” to better capture this population.

BHMC SCs also amplify awareness of programs, websites, and call lines for more immediate support needs for Service members and families such as Military OneSource which includes leadership and resources from Military Community Support Programs, Military Family Readiness Policy, Military Community Outreach, DSLO and more.
Fostering Connections: DoD & State Engagement

- There was traditionally little to no representation of DoD or military interests on state public health- and/or improvement-focused boards or councils, including State and County Health Improvement Boards.
- BHMC State Coordinators now participate and provide a prospective to help inform the State Health Improvement Plans, County Health Improvement Plans, and State Economic Improvement plans and bring a voice to the table to ensure the needs of the military family are considered in strategic planning efforts.
- SCs help to align the community health priorities of the state and the readiness priorities of the Military Departments to demonstrate and achieve shared goals and desired health outcomes.
- For example, COVID-19 has impacted the physical, mental and financial wellbeing of the nation – including Service members and their families. BHMC partnerships and initiatives seek to strengthen protective factors.
  - Mitigating the mid- and long-term impacts of COVID-19 on readiness and resilience in the military-connected community requires a sustained and concerted effort between the DoD and community partners.
State-Specific Initiatives

Some specific examples of State Coordinator efforts include:

- **Florida**: in partnership with YMCA Florida, SC established Operation Strong and Ready, a free, 8-week military wellness program designed specifically for members of the Guard, Reserve, and Delayed Entry Program to improve their physical fitness in a supportive atmosphere
  - Preparing for a fitness test correctly could decrease the incidence of muscular skeletal injury and improve SM’s ability to complete mission essential tasks

- **Minnesota**: SC built partnerships across VA including Vet Centers and Veteran Experience Action Center to provide better awareness and access to an array of resources for Service members and their families, regardless of branch of Service
  - For those without an active duty base in the state, families rely more heavily on these Veteran resources

- **New Mexico**: SC partnered with the State Department of Transportation in which select train route transportation is available to all Veterans, National Guard, Reserve, Active and their families (with appropriate ID) at no cost
  - Free transportation options facilitate easier access to employment and education opportunities as well as community resources
BHMC Intended Outcomes

BHMC is partnering with the Uniformed Services University for the Health Sciences (USUHS) to analyze the following metrics to identify areas for improvement, recommend interventions, and inform decision-making policy implementation:

- Community-level health-related quality of life (HRQoL) scores
- Prevalence of disease and non-battle injury (DNBI)
- Service members readiness to deploy
- Influencing co-factors related to recruiting and retention

• BHMC SC’s articulate a DoD perspective on each state’s State Health Improvement Board (or equivalent). This influence has already been realized, in part with an added question about respondent’s status of military service on the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), the nation’s premier health related survey

• The pilot’s target completion date is September 2020. It would require an additional two years to evaluate meaningful outcomes, measures, and benchmarks to further evaluate and demonstrate impact on Force readiness and resiliency

Supporting the health and wellbeing of Service members, their families, and youth is critical to optimizing readiness and well-being for the Military-connected community
Who We Are

- The Defense-State Liaison Office, or DSLO, was established by Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness in 2004.
- Total staff of 11 –
  - 3 in headquarters
  - 8 regional liaisons
- In the past decade, we’ve worked with state policymakers to enact over 700 bills that make life better for the military community.
What We Do

• Mission is to:
  • Alleviate barriers as a result of military life
  • Harmonize differences in state and federal laws
• Have covered a wide range of state issues:
  • Family law, education, occupational licensure and employment support, consumer protection, voting, health policy, National Guard support and the state judicial system
• Issues are reviewed annually to bring most significant to states
• Accomplish mission through research of potential issues and education, relationships, and assistance with state policymakers.
2020 Key Issues:

- **Implementation of Supportive Licensure Laws (immediate action)**
  - Research shows that some States have not implemented the laws that have been passed to support military spouses.
  - Desired outcome is that licensing boards train staff, revise forms and post information on websites.

- **Enhanced state initiatives to improve military spouse license portability (near-term action)**
  - Improving expedited processes to achieve a baseline of a license within 30 days without submitting verifying documents.

- **Military Spouse Teacher Certification (near-term action)**
  - Provide flexibility in accepting an existing standard certificate, establishing a temporary certificate, or expediting application and adjudication processes to alleviate the delays in garnering certification.

- **Licensing compacts recognizing military spouses and separating Service members (long-term solutions)**
  - The “gold standard” for military spouse license portability.
  - Nursing, Emergency Medical Services, Physical Therapy, Psychology, Speech Pathology/Audiology
Licensure Portability:

**Reciprocity: A continuum of opportunities to transfer an occupational license between states**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licensing without portability</th>
<th>Endorsement, temporary license and expedited applications</th>
<th>Fully implement existing military spouse laws</th>
<th>Expedited: endorsement with affidavit, endorsement researched by state (TX and PA), and temporary license without verifying documents</th>
<th>Exemption from state requirements</th>
<th>Occupational interstate compacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Immediately attainable actions

Full implementation

Near-term actions

As baseline: license in 30 days without submitting verifying documents

Long-term solutions

Compacts
Occupational Licensing Compacts

- State-to-State Agreements: An interstate compact is a contract between two or more states. It carries the force of statutory law and allows states to perform a certain action, observe a certain standard, or cooperate in a critical policy area.
- States share authority and responsibility to oversee occupational practice.
- “Privilege to practice” policies allow members in compact states to work in other compact states.
- “Tele-practice opportunities” using technology to work across state boundaries are created.
2020 Key Issues continued:

- **Virtual Schools** - new issue for 2020
  - Providing additional continuity through on-line school resources for military students

- **Advance Enrollment**
  - Students comply with residency requirements for school enrollment based on orders to the state.
  - May electronically enroll and register based on set of orders to state

- **In-State Tuition Continuity**
  - Allowing military child to register as instate students based on time of acceptance to the higher-education institution, even if the military parent has PCS’d out of state.
2020 Key Issues continued:

- **Medicaid Waivers**
  - Allow Service members to retain their earned priority for receiving Medicaid home and community care waivers.
  - Allowing Service members to enroll their exceptional family member in the State they designate as their legal residence.

- **Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting**
  - Having child protective services identify military family cases and report them to military officials at onset of investigation.

- **“Ask the Question” Campaign – new issue for 2020**
  - Encourages States to engage agencies to ask, “Have you or a family member ever served in the military?” on all intake forms.
## Issue Metrics as of Q2 2020

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<tr>
<th>Issue Category</th>
<th>Status Policy</th>
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### Aggregate Status
- **Bill Introduced**: 28
- **Partially Enacted**: 28
- **Enacted**: 28

## State Issue Status

10/01/2019 - 05/22/2020

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## Legislative Trends

[Graph showing legislative trends]

**5-Year Average**

**Date Range**: 04/01/2015 - 05/22/2020

### Prior to 10/01/2019
- **Bill Introduced**: 6
- **Partially Enacted**: 3
- **Enacted**: 2

### Bill Status for Prior to 10/01/2019

- **Sponsors**: 6
- **Bills**: 3
- **Enacted**: 2
Here and ready to support your efforts.

Thank you for helping our military families.

Marcus.j.Beauregard.civ@mail.mil
https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil
(571) 236-2893
Military One Source offers a wide range of individualized consultations, coaching and counseling for many aspects of Military Life. This infographic shows 15 categories of support that are provided. The 15 areas are:

- Confidential Non-Medical Counseling
- Spouse Education and Career Opportunities
- Health and Wellness Coaching
- Wounded Warrior and Caregivers
- Education
- New MilParent
- Adoption
- Document Translation & Language Interpretation
- Peer-to-Peer Support
- Special Needs
- Spouse Relocation and Transition
- Elder Care
- Building Healthy Relationships
- Transitioning Veterans
- Financial and Tax Consultation

24/7 Connection to Resources and Support
Military OneSource State Consultants

- Provide outreach and education to military and civilian sectors
- Develop and execute a state support plan
- Connect active duty, National Guard and reserve members and families to Federal, state, and local resources and non-profit organizations
- Integrate community resources into the Military OneSource network of resources available through a 24/7 call center and website

In FY19...
- 2,200+ events supporting the Total Force
- 1+ million attendees reached with a briefing and/or resource table
- 4,200+ direct support activities
- 16,000+ community capacity activities

Request state consultant support at: https://supportrequest.militaryonesource.mil
Partnering on Military Spouse Employment

- **440+** partners in the Military Spouse Employment Partnership
- **143,000+** military spouses hired through the partnership since program inception

Introduction to the **Military Spouse Employment Partnership** for Potential Partners

- **25+** member organizations in the Spouse Ambassador Network
MilitaryOneSource.mil

Currently...
5,000+ DOD, federal and non-federal resources shared through MilitaryOneSource.mil

In FY19...
> 21+ million pageviews of content across MC&FP enclave
> 6+ million sessions across the MC&FP enclave
> 30+ Facebook and LinkedIn social media events

As of today...
+ 92% increase in users, +74% sessions and, +47% in pageviews between Q1 FY19 and Q1 FY20

Collaborations including...

Reach: 3,309
Total engagements: 246
Views: 1,067

Reach: 13,058
Total engagements: 1,214
Views: 4,000
Right-time Access to Key Community Information

- 300+ installations
- 10,000+ pages of local information

118,000+ pageviews to the COVID-19 landing page
Collaborating on Timely Updates and Resources

16,000+ people reached with Tutor.com Expanded Eligibility

4,000+ people reached with UCLA’s National Center for Child Traumatic Stress

8,000+ people reached with IRS Economic Impact Payment

6,000+ people reached with H&R Block’s MilSpouse Scholarship
Connecting with the Community

- **Sandboxx**: 2,300+ sessions, 225 high-value actions and 2.2M impressions
- **Zillow**: 3,500+ sessions and 7M+ impressions
- **In-person**: 9,000+ clicks and ~300,000 people touched
Staying Connected

• **44,000+** subscribers of all eNewsletters as of April 2020

• **151,566+** subscriptions as of April 2020

• **600+** subscribers to the first Service Provider eNewsletter edition
Discussion
Q & A
Closing Remarks

Mr. Bushman
Chairman