



# Military Community & Family Policy

## *Joint Family Support Assistance Program (JFSAP) Overview*





# Objectives

- Describe the mission, purpose and goals of the Joint Family Assistance Program (JFSAP).
- Inform JFSAP POC's of policy and resources to support role and responsibilities.
- Foster a strong foundation to ensure success.
- Provide information about additional resources available.



# JFSAP Mission

**Mission:** To provide mobile, high quality, effective, and efficient family assistance and services to augment current Family Programs staffing levels in order to meet the needs of family members of Active Duty, Guard and reserve Component members, specifically targeting family members who are geographically dispersed from a military installation.



# JFSAP Purpose

**Purpose:** To provide high quality, mobile support and services to geographically dispersed military members and families to enhance their ability to cope effectively with the challenges of military lifestyle, including deployment. JFSAP staff will partner with military, state and local resources to assess needs, identify resources and address gaps, and enhance/build community capacity.



# JFSAP Goals

1. Create a “high-tech, high touch” web-enabled community to connect military families with each other and with supportive resources 24/7.
2. Increase availability of resources for family members.
3. Increase awareness of active/Guard/Reserve members and families of existing services.
4. Inform leadership and service providers about the range of available programs and services, and how they may be accessed.
5. Provide Child Development resources and referral.
6. Sponsor volunteers and family support professionals.
7. Assess the need for enhanced support.
8. Integrate services and programs into a comprehensive delivery system that responds to members and families at all stages of the deployment cycle



# Policy

- P.L. 109-364; sec 675
- DoDD 5124.02 USD for Personnel and Readiness
- DoDD 1342.17 Military Family Readiness
- DoDI 1342.22 Military Family Readiness Systems
- DoDI 6490.06 Counseling Services for DoD Military, Guard and Reserve, Certain Affiliated Personnel, and Their Family Members



# Background

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2007 authorized the JFSAP to deliver mobile family support and services to families facing the same deployment-related challenges as installation-based families, but whose access to support is more challenging.

The Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (ODUSD), Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) funded JFSAP teams at National Guard Joint Force Headquarters in 15 pilot states in November 2007, and expanded to all states and territories in September 2008.



# On Demand Support

- On-demand support ([jfsap.mhf.dod.mil](http://jfsap.mhf.dod.mil)) augments and extends the resources of local JFSAP teams.
- The central hub for providing a range of Department-funded deployment cycle support resources to members and families at events sponsored by National Guard and Reserve units with a request form ([jfsap.mhf.dod.mil](http://jfsap.mhf.dod.mil)) to facilitate the process for units to request resources:
  - Counseling and briefings for financial issues
  - Counseling and briefings for personal and family life issues
  - Military OneSource resources
- Resources include information briefs, educational briefings, training and counseling.
- Resources are provided at unit-sponsored deployment cycle events, including pre-deployment, during deployment, and 30-60-90 days after deployment.



# INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (ISFAC)

ISFACs are voluntary state (some regional) military/community partnerships that increase coordination with/between state/community agencies and military resources

## **The ISFAC presents an opportunity for Governors to:**

- Facilitate coordination between federal, state and local resources in support of Service members, Veterans and family members.
- Obtain recommendations from professionals within the state on needs, resources and priorities.
- Create a bridge to Federal-level organizations to relay issues beyond states resources to fulfill.
- Use the information gained through this process to improve the delivery of services for the general population with similar needs.



# ISFAC

## Effective ISFACs:

- Are chartered by the Governor and attended by senior decision makers from the participating organizations.
- Assess member and family needs and strengths; identify existing services and gaps in service and/or duplication of effort.
- Set goals and objectives and desired outcomes; evaluate and communicate results.
- Have administrative support to ensure action items are recorded and followed-up.
- Include functions associated with the JFSAP and the DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program.



# JFSAP Teams

## **JFSAP teams are composed of:**

- 1 Military Family Life Consultant (MFLC)
- 1 Child and Youth Behavioral (CYB) MFLC
- 1 Military OneSource (MOS) Consultant
- 1 additional position (state choice of MFLC; CYB-MFLC; or Personal Financial Counselor (PFC)).



# JFSAP Teams

JFSAP teams serve members and families from all Components and collaborate with existing family support resources, to augment their activities and fill gaps where they exist.

## **JFSAP teams provide:**

- Information and referrals to community services and support
- Non-medical counseling and education to individuals, families and groups
- Child and youth services, including assistance locating child care
- Financial education and counseling
- On-demand support for Yellow Ribbon Program (YRP) and other deployment events
- Community capacity building to support families' access to local resources and support

# FY-10 INITIATIVES



- The University of Georgia will conduct a comprehensive program evaluation of JFSAP.
- Researchers from the University of Georgia and the University of North Carolina will conduct a review of military and civilian Community Capacity Building (CCB) models; identify promising practices; and develop an evidence-based CCB model to integrate family assistance programs.
- The CCB initiative will include training and technical assistance for state-based Inter-Service Family Assistance Committees (ISFACs).

The logo is circular with a blue border. Inside, there are three white stars at the top, a red silhouette of a family (two adults and a child) in the center, and three white wavy lines at the bottom. The text "Military Community & Family Policy" is written in yellow around the inner edge of the circle.

Questions?

*Email the*  
*JFSAP Manager*