



# MILITARY TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Recovery

Chair:  
Major General David J. Mikolaities

Vice Co-Chairs:  
Dr. Andrew Breuder; Staff Sgt. Rick Frost

## Joint Military Task Force

21 February, 2019

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Adjutant General - Joint Force Headquarters Building  
1 Minuteman Way, Concord, NH

*The mission of the Joint Military Task Force is to enhance awareness and advocacy as well as improve access to affordable, relevant alcohol and other drug related services for military members and their families through education and collaboration.*

## Agenda/Notes

### ⇒ Present:

*Staff Sgt. Rick Frost (NHNG)*

*Chris Chant (CHI/Center for Excellence)*

*Robert O'Hannon (BDAS)*

*Dick Castrucci*

*Eric Golnick (VFR Healthcare)*

*Gary D'Amour (NHNG)*

*Chris Neiman (VAMC)*

*Dr. Andrew Breuder (MOAA)*

*Katy Shea Morgan (CHI/Center for Excellence)*

*Maj. Mark B. Patterson (NHNG)*

*Sheena Bice (VFR Healthcare)*

*Matt Petlock (VFR Healthcare)*

*Melanie Spears (U.S. House of Representatives)*

### I. Welcome and Introductions

1. Welcome, Melanie Spears

### II. Review of minutes from December, 2018 meeting

1. Review of action items; approval of minutes.

### III. Change of JMTF meeting venue/location

1. Going forward, JMTF meetings will now be held at: Edward Cross Training Center, Pembroke (off Sheep Davis Road). No gated access or security. All agreed with change of venue.

### IV. Letter to Humana

1. Letter has been written and submitted; awaiting signature.
2. **ACTION: RF will send copy of letter to Melanie Spears.**

3. Letter is addressed to Honorable Mr. Thomas McCaffery, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
4. Letter has now been provided to Patrick Tufts (Governor's Commission) for a signature.

#### **V. JMTF membership**

1. RF sent out e-mail (not all received, however) about being a voting member of Task Force.
2. RF has submitted list of voting members; has now been approved.
3. If somebody would like to be a voting member (as opposed to public member), please reach out to Center for Excellence (via Amy Pepin).

#### **VI. Strategic Plan**

1. Governor's Commission Strategic Plan has just been published. Copies can be obtained from either RF or KSM.
2. Contains priorities, objectives, recommendations from all Governor's Commission Task Forces.
3. **ACTION: Send out web link to Strategic Plan.**

#### **VII. Future structure/constitution of JMTF**

1. Follow-up from last meeting's discussion about whether to change constitution of JMTF to include First Responders.
2. Originating from TAG's observed provider and clinical similarities between Veterans and First Responders.
3. Dissimilarities, however, between federally-supported Veterans and more locally-supported First Responders.
4. Consideration of actual feasibility of making this change – i.e., putting forward to Governor's Commission, change of Strategic Plan, etc.
5. JMTF voted **not** to make the change to include First Responders. Recommendation will go to Chair, but, ultimately Chair will make executive decision.
6. Any reach-out to law enforcement? RF has had discussion with Lt. James Kneeland (NH Fish & Game)

#### **VIII. Military Culture Trainings**

1. Reminder of what these trainings stand for/hope to convey: MCT for providers around NH for better understanding of unique conditions/circumstances for Veterans in accessing services. Further, NH is a "National Guard State" rather than an "Active Duty State"; therefore, the concept of "Fort New Hampshire" is important. Consequently, not all services are on an active base, like in other states – but, the idea is to try and create that same sense here in NH.
2. MMP is working with a JMTF sub-committee (along with DC, Nancy Triantafyllou, Sue Brown (former JMTF member)) to develop curriculum.

3. Sub-committee met in January to go through what Sue Brown already had; changes were made. MMP has added section that details the military infrastructure of NH, as well as Ask The Question (ATQ) campaign.
4. ATQ has been brought up in other states, but the consideration remains about what happens after “the question” has been asked. No specific *actions* for Veterans; rather, having an understanding of that Veteran and knowing how to direct them to appropriate services.
5. MMP will arrange to meet with group again in between JMTF meeting to have a look again at training. **ACTION: MMP to send out invitation for this.**
6. On April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (full weekend), a Service Member & Family Support Symposium in Portsmouth, NH (Sheridan Harborside Hotel?). JMTF members will be invited, and final MCT product will be presented. MMP will send out information soon.
7. MCT will also be presented at National Social Workers Association meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.
8. **ACTION: MMP will aim to send out final draft of presentation to JMTF before next meeting.**
9. Concern was expressed about sustainability of grant-funded programs/initiatives in NH.

#### **IX. Launch of The Doorway-NH**

1. Launched by NH DHHS in January (funded through SAMHSA State Opioid Response grant).
2. Online description: *“It will provide a single point of entry for residents seeking treatment for SUD. The location of each of the nine Doorways will ensure that help for substance use disorder will be less than an hour away. This new approach will provide an integrated, one-stop-shop model offering the full array of treatment, recovery and self-sufficiency services.”*
3. Currently weekday (i.e., not after hours) accessibility. Still a lack of providers, however.
4. Any presence of Ask The Question?
5. Concern about sustainability and service capacity.

#### **X. Other business**

1. A need to measure and evaluate (where possible) products developed by JMTF (i.e., pre-/post-evaluation).
2. More technical support available from Center for Excellence. TA requests can be submitted through CfEx website to initiate this. GC Chairs’ meeting at CfEx on 02/22 will go into more detail about this.
3. Think about Strategic Plan, and whether any agencies that JMTF members represent need advocacy/support from JMTF.
4. Think about aims and objectives of JMTF.

5. Something for April agenda: What's needed by relevant agencies? Funding for VA? Incentivized employment/scholarship opportunities? Corporate support/discretionary funds?
6. What about ATQ? Amy Cook provided update to RF.

**Our 2019 Meeting Schedule:**

~~21th February, 2019~~  
18th April, 2019  
20th June, 2019  
15th August, 2019  
17th October, 2019  
19th December, 2019

**All meetings will be held at the Edward Cross Training Center, Pembroke, from 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM, except for February, which will be 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.**

A call-in number will be provided at the top of each agenda.

\*Public members: Please contact Vice Co-Chair(s) to confirm a meeting prior to attending meeting.