



JOINT MILITARY TASK FORCE

Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs

Chair:
Major General David J. Mikolaities

Co-Chair:
Dr. Andrew Breuder

Co-Vice-Chair:
Lt. Col Samon

Thursday, December 19th, 2019 – 9:30 AM-11:30 AM
Edward Cross Training Center (Room 216), Riverwood Drive, Pembroke, NH.

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome & Introductions	Participants: Rick Frost, Amy Cook, Drew Breuder, Paul Kiernan, Adriana Lopera, Jeff Samon, Tom Gioancola (Rep. Kuster’s Office), Elizabeth Duffy, Dick Castrucci, Eliza Zarka (Gov. Sununu’s office), Major General David Mikolaities, Nancy Triantafyllou	
Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Steps
2. Opening items: (All members)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October minutes will be reviewed and approved via email. 	
3. JMTF Fact Sheet for 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest version has a different seal so that it’s consistent with other JMTF materials • Gen. Mikolaities asked Lt. Col Samon and Dr. Breuder to update this document for 2020. • This can be used as a base for strategic planning efforts in 2020 and keep the JMTF on track. • There are seven 2020 goals divided by service members (all military branches in NH, including reserves), families, and veterans (not defined by combat experience, retirement or type of discharge- most inclusive definition as possible). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ From those seven goals the JMTF can work backwards to identify activities and strategies that will support these goals. ○ The point is to be action-oriented and make sure JMTF members walk away from meetings knowing the specific tasks they need to complete. 	
4. Continuum of Care Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frost presented on the Continuum of Care model and the levels of prevention (universal, selective and indicated). 	
5. Strategies and Activities Worksheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unclear what is already available and what the assets and deficits are. • A needs assessment might be needed; the Center for Excellence can spearhead this effort. • Can connect with other task force groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul will look into reopening Google Drive folder and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are existing data sources (YRBS, Community Health Assessments, published literature) rather than reinvent the wheel. • The needs assessment is an activity that can be aimed at improving the JMTF overall. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The majority of veterans cannot access VA benefits because they do not qualify. ○ Current programs for children of military families is limited in NH. ○ If a service member is not on an active base, services are not all in one place. • It is important to create that space, a Fort NH. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with the Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) since each is supposed to have that military liaison. Currently not funded. Amy facilitates that statewide group. Funding ended in 2017, and since then only half are actively participating in the statewide group. The majority are not implementing to the same level that they used to when they received funding. Through DHHS, monthly data point reports are being collected but they are no longer receiving narrative reports. • One strategy could be to seek funding to strengthen these programs. • JMTF had suggested to the state that these roles could be funded through the STR grant, but was not considered. • Contract paid for 8 hours a month for this role to write reports and perform duties outlined in action plan (acting as a resource for other staff, liaison to families, bringing in trainings). Other funding went towards statewide coordinator (30 hours a week) who conducted professional development training and offered support to all of the liaisons in the state. Another part of the funding went towards bringing in external trainings. • DHHS was offered \$249,000 from the Innovation Incubator from the National Guard Bureau, but was declined because of the unrealistic spending deadlines. • The NGB has reopened the application process for that type of funding- DHHS are in the process of reapplying for that funding. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rep. Kuster's office is willing to submit a letter of support and help in any way. • Previous funding was for the 10 CMHCs in NH but missed other healthcare settings like hospitals. It would be helpful to replicate this work in other healthcare settings that offer more comprehensive SUD services than the CMHCs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are foundational pieces that would make this work move faster. Amy has already gathered interest from NHHA in military focused work, • Celia Felsenberg is a member of the JMTF and is a veterans' liaison in Derry. She will be coming to next meeting. The task force can ask for her feedback. 	<p>will share with the JMTF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JMTF will add brainstorming strategy ideas to that drive for discussion at the next meeting.
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- Identifier for children of active service members in schools will now include Reserve and National Guard. It will become easier to identify this population.
- Unclear whether this data will be available to members of the JMTF.
- A lot of opportunity to get involved. Current law requires schools to report children of active duty military, but many schools are not aware of this requirement. This has been the challenge of the Compact Commission in each state.
 - School staff become engaged and willing to participate once they learn more.
 - Schools also ask the question in different ways, and sometimes do not ask the right questions to get the answers they need.
 - The Compact Commission came out with a template for schools to use, but schools need to be educated on how and why to use the template.
 - Could use Regional Public Health Program to disseminate the information.
 - Colleges are much further ahead than K-12 schools in collecting this information. Military culture training needs to be embedded in college curricula, especially in social work/health related degrees. A college in MA has embedded this in their courses and is a model that could be used in NH.
- Can leverage networks to increase awareness about this requirement and tie in the benefit of this information. Could potentially be tied to funding. Federal impact aid is tied to active military (not including National Guard and reserve) 3% of school population threshold is hard to meet in NH, but schools will not know if they meet this threshold unless they collect the data.
- Military family and educator guide will also include information about the data collection requirement.
- JMTF could potentially offer guidance to schools on how to support the children of military families once they have been identified.
 - For example the OH Dept of Education provides a Purple Star Program that recognizes military kids and offers support. This could be replicated in NH, who would be the first state in New England to do so.
 - Frost and Lt. Col Samon have contacts in OH to gather more information. They will bring back more information at the next JMTF meeting.
 - Could use Google Drive to add these documents as well as other brainstorming suggestions.

6. Slides Demonstrating Concentrations of Military Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frost presented maps with concentrations of service members, active duty members, and their dependents in the state. • There are concentrations as expected along the Seacoast and in Manchester, but there are also pockets in Berlin, Salem, Nashua, Concord, and the Claremont area. 	
7. Advisors Sign Up Sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy interested in joining Healthcare or Treatment • Dick is serving on Treatment. • Rick and Drew will be on Prevention. • Frost will put list out again. Paul will assist with creating a Google Form. • The advisors should go with the factsheet and advocate for that military lens and should walk away with some activities for the JMTF. 	
8. New Business or Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The JMTF will not be making a funding request at the Governor's Commission meeting in February. • Can also advocate on other task forces to request funding with a veterans'/service members focus. • Under new funding request guidelines – the JMTF can recommended funding be put towards certain initiatives, but cannot specify an organization. • In 2020, the JMTF will continue to work towards identifying promising opportunities for funding. 	

Next meeting: Thursday, March 19th 2020 (9:00 AM – 11:00 AM).

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