



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:

Staff Sgt. Richard Frost

THE JOINT MILITARY TASK FORCE was established on December 15, 2015 per approval by the Chair of the Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Prevention, Treatment and Recovery. The Task Force reflects a 'joint' partnership between the Governor's Commission and the multiple sub-task forces that encompass the Governor's Commission's work. The Joint Military Task Force serves as one of the task forces that has evolved from the membership and work of the Military & Civilian Alcohol and Drug Committee (MCAD) established in 2010.

MISSION

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 services for service members, their families, and military veterans through education and collaboration.

PROBLEM STATEMENTS

In recent years, a number of studies have shown that there is a direct correlation between the prevalence of certain protective factors in individuals and tendencies towards substance abuse. A lack of a focus on physical and mental wellness puts individuals at risk when faced with adversity.

National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2015

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey (YRBS) indicates that NH youth with military family members reported significantly higher rates of alcohol and drug misuse than youth with non-military family members.

NH Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2013-2015

Approximately only 30,000 of the 110,000 veterans living in NH access care from the Veterans Administration, creating the need for a better understanding of the military population from the civilian sector. As with many populations, substance abuse is a pervasive concern, requiring civilian providers to have a better understanding of military service and its impact on substance abuse.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs - VA Medical Center, NH



SEVEN
out of ten

veterans receive their care from a civilian provider

NH MILITARY YOUTH ARE

15%

MORE LIKELY TO SHOW RISKY BEHAVIORS INCLUDING SUBSTANCE ABUSE

SERVICE MEMBERS

1. Increase the availability of Wellness programs and services available to servicemembers state-wide to include all dimensions of wellness.
2. Promote and advocate for services that are designed to address the unique wellness needs of New Hampshire's military, their families, and our veterans.

FAMILIES

1. Promote, advocate for, and support community services that provide protective factors for youth impacted by military service in their families.
2. Provide support and services for military spouses or partners during times of need such as deployments, training periods, etc.

VETERANS

1. Increase and improve the implementation of military culture trainings for civilian practitioners providing services to the veterans of NH.
2. Increase promotion efforts and utilization of the "Ask The Question" campaign to ensure appropriate services are being offered to our state's veteran population.
3. Integrate Joint Military Task Force members into the other task forces, eliminating silos, and increasing collaboration on behalf of NH's veteran community.

2020 GOALS
by target population

Chair: Major General David Mikolaities, Adjutant General, New Hampshire National Guard

Vice Chairs: Dr. Andrew Breuder, Lt. Col. Jeffrey M. Samon

The Joint Military Task Force meets on the third Thursday, every 4 months, from 9:30-11:30am in Room 222 of the Edward Cross Training Center, Pembroke, NH.

For upcoming meeting dates, please visit <http://nhcenterforexcellence.org/governors-commission/military-task-force>