Child Safety & Family Empowerment Council

September 9, 2021

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Arizona Coalition for Military Families
The Coalition is a public/private partnership and collective impact initiative that engages all helpers, organizations and communities to create a coordinated ecosystem of support. Established in 2009.

Be Connected is our statewide upstream prevention program to support Arizona’s 500,000+ service members, veterans, and their families across all social determinants of health. Established in 2017.
A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH

We can’t use the SAME approach for every service member, veteran and family member.

We need crisis response, treatment AND proactive prevention

ARIZONA’S UPSTREAM PREVENTION MODEL

UNIVERSAL | SELECTIVE | INDICATED
UNIVERSAL = Everyone
SELECTIVE = Segments based on higher risk
INDICATED = Individuals & their families
How do we help families more effectively navigate systems to connect to resources and support?
Who (and what) is the focus?

- Service member/Veteran
- Family member
- Self
- All?
Think Broadly: Social Determinants of Health

- Basic Needs
- Employment
- Family & Social Supports
- Finances & Benefits
- Higher Education
- Housing & Homelessness
- Legal
- Mental Health & Substance Use
- Physical Health
- Spirituality
Example from a recent project focused on the impact of COVID-19 and essential needs. Of the military and veteran households served:

- 71% experienced difficulty meeting basic needs (e.g. food, utility bills, gas, healthcare)
- 38% of nominees and/or family members had experienced illness
- 40% had experienced a reduction in hours or income
- 60% experienced more than one negative impact from the pandemic.

The entry point for engagement may not be mental health:
What is available in your state/community to connect people to resources and support?

Phone lines

Apps/Websites

Programs

Helpers

How can the process of getting help be simplified?
Be Connected Team of Teams

Support Line

VA Peer Supports

Career Specialists

Risk Reduction Operations Team

AmeriCorps Members

Community Engagement

Regional Navigators

400+ Be Connected Partner Organizations and 3,000+ resources mapped and matchable
Points to keep in mind

Consider the resource and support needs of everyone in the family.

Take an inclusive view of needs and social determinants of health.

Create clear pathways to help people and families navigate systems and resources.
Helping Military & Veteran Families Navigate Systems

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