

# New York National Guard State Family Programs



**PETER PILC**

**Military Family Assistance Specialist (MFAS)**

**WNY-REGION**

**(716-888-5797)**

# State Family Program Structure

- State Family Program Director - Mr Andy DePalo
- Family Readiness Assistants - Stephanie Duell
- Family Readiness Support Assistants - 7
  
- Military Family Assistant Centers Coordinator - Jeanna Clark
- Military Family Assistant Center Specialists - 6
  
- Military Family Assistant Center Wing Coordinators - 5
  
- NYNG Youth Coordinator - Colleen Casey & Keri O'Neil - 2
- ESGR - 2
- Transition Assistant Advisor - 2
- MFLC Consultant - 1
- Director of Psychological Health - 1
- Military One Source Consultant - 1
- Personal Financial Consultant - 1
  
- Family Readiness Groups (FRG's)
- FRG Leaders
- Volunteers

# Location of 7 “Embedded” MFACS

Rochester - Patriot Way	- Jeanna Clark (Coordinator)
JFHQ - Latham & 42IND - Troy	- Joanne Murphy
Peekskill - Camp Smith	- Kelly Stroh
Syracuse - Thompson Rd.	- Anne Marie Lara
Buffalo - Connecticut St.	- Peter Pilc
Brooklyn - Marcy Ave.	- Vacant
New York City - Lexington Ave.	- Betty Eissfeld
Staten Island - Farmingdale	- Deanna Bullock

# Military Family Assistance Centers

**MFAC's are established in times of contingency call-up, mobilization and large-scale deployments to provide assistance to National Guard and Reserve members and their families. 600 Centers were established during Desert Storm.**

**They have a critical role in providing information, assistance and referral to military Family members and Soldiers.**

**It is intended to simplify the process of accessing needed services and support for families of service members called to AD (Active Duty) for an extended period of time.**

# Some Duties Include

Provide Informational, Referral and Follow-up Services to **ALL** branches of the military such as RAPID Sites, TRICARE Reps, Chaplain Assistance, Pay Issues, Legal/JAG referrals, Transition Assistance, ESGR, MilitaryOnceSource (1-800-342-9647) [www.militaryoncesource.com](http://www.militaryoncesource.com), etc

Community Outreach - research services available and share info with SFPO (State Family Program Office) as a source for referrals

Provide 100% contact with families and POC's of **ALL** deployed soldiers thru Monthly Outreach Letters to HOR, emails and phone calls.

# Our Six Essential Services

**Legal Resource and Referrals**

**Financial Resource and Referrals**

**Tricare Resource and Referral**

**ID Cards and Deers**

**Crisis Intervention and Referral**

**Community Information and Outreach**

# Legal Resource and Referrals

## Explanation:

Assistance with Power of Attorney/Wills, Service members Civil Relief Act, USERRA, ESGR

## Issues:

Employment, Taxes, Selling/Buying (cars, houses etc), Evictions, Child Support, Financial, Incarceration, CPS, Custody

## Resources:

NYNG JAG, NY Guard JAG, Legal Aid, CASA, Give an Hour Program, ESGR, TAA, Chaplains/Assistants

# Financial Resource and Referrals

## Explanation :

Understanding Military Pay, referrals for grants, referrals for personal financial management.

## Issues:

Utilities, Rent, Mortgage, Appliances, car & home repairs

## Resources:

Operation Homefront, Family Readiness Council, EANGUS, American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Veterans One Stop Center, Reserve Aid, Labor Unions

# TRICARE Resource and Referral

## Explanation:

Assistance with Tricare Medical and Dental applications, identifying providers and claim denial assistance.

## Issues:

Enrollment (Standard, TRS, TAMP)

## Resources:

Military Family Assistance Specialist, Healthnet Regional Manager (Barbara Veeder 315-725-0965), MNP-LOD (WO1 Spanton 518-272-6469), Martin's Point (716-839-0285)

# ID Cards and DEERS

## Explanation:

Assistance with obtaining an ID CARD through the nearest Rapids Center

## Issues:

Retirees, Dependents, College Students, Soldiers/Family members

## Resources:

Local Rapid sites.....

# Crisis Intervention and Referral

## Explanation:

Assistance with sensitive issues.

## Issues:

Suicide, Domestic Violence, Transportation, Counseling

## Resources:

MFLC (Adult/Youth), NYS Psychologist, VET Center, Suicide Hot line (1-800-273-TALK), Crisis Services, Fisher House

# Community Information and Referral

## Explanation:

Assistance with Child Care resources, Career resources and VA benefits.

## Issues:

Scholarships, Summer Camps, Holiday Adoptions/Programs, Morale/Welfare, Exceptional Family Member Program (Special Needs), Family Readiness Groups, Unit contacts,

## Resources:

JSAP Team, ESGR, TAA, Family Program Youth Coordinators, OMK, NACCRRRA

# Available Benefits

- 6% Interest Reduction
- Youth Program
- Travel Discounts
- Spouse/family Life Ins
- Free Counseling Services
- Space A Travel (military air) Stateside/overseas

# Available Benefits

- 6% Interest Reduction
- Youth Program
- Travel Discounts
- Spouse/family Life Ins
- Free Counseling Services
- Space A Travel (military air) Stateside/overseas

# Available Benefits Cont

- Military Discounts (Home Depot, Lowes, Disney, Parks, Restaurants, Hotels, Cell Phones)
- FREE Legal Assistance (Power of Attorney/Wills)
- Child Care Assistance
- Tax Assistance through MilitaryOneSource (H&R Block Tax at Home) & United Way (CASH Program)

# Available Benefits/Assistance

- Emergency Assistance (USACARES, Red Cross, American Legion, VA, Salvation Army, Un-Met-Needs, Reserve Aid)
- BAS/BAH
- Job Protection
- Retirement/Pension Benefits/TSP/SDP
- Scholarships
- NYS Patriot Plan (Property Tax Reduction, Relief Act, Various Protection Plans, Education, Home Repair, etc)

# Available Benefits/Assistance Cont

- Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) 1-800-826-0886 program is for a member regardless of age who has a disability which limits their ability to function on a daily basis and requires counseling, training, education, therapy or treatment.

## “Buffalo Veterans Treatment Court” (became the model for the country)

- Buffalo City Courts Veterans Program – (Drug/Mental Health Treatment Court) this program will assist veterans and family members who enter the Criminal Justice System. If subject to arrest, booking and incarceration. Rehab services will be offered ie; drug and alcohol addiction, medical, mental health, legal, educational or employment. Overall goal is to have individuals be diverted from the traditional criminal system and provide the tools to return to a productive and law-abiding lifestyle.

# “Joining Community Forces” (Community Network Program)

- JCFs promote a holistic approach to supporting military and family members, Veterans and Wounded Warriors to enable proactive, efficient and effective assistance from the closest support source. JCFs work to eliminate service and support gaps. Suggested goals for a JCF:

# “Joining Community Forces” (Community Network Program

Improve coordination and reduce duplication of support services provided by all government and non-government organizations and community support agencies

- Ensure communication of all services to family members.
- Establish a community contact registry and mapping of community support partners to maintain current information of available support services

# “Joining Community Forces” (Community Network Program

- Establish a local charter to institutionalize organizational roles and responsibilities.
- Identify and communicate with community leaders and installation commanders for active-duty, National Guard and Reserve components and anticipate the impact of deployment on the community and its members (before, during and after deployment)

# “Joining Community Forces” (Community Network Program

- Build awareness about Service-connected family continuum of services needs to include quality of life issues, urgent life needs, and contingency plans for natural disasters.

# Questions

?



**PETER PILC**

**Military Family Assistance Specialist (MFAS)**

**WNY-REGION**

**(716-888-5797)**