



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

Joint Military Task Force: 2018

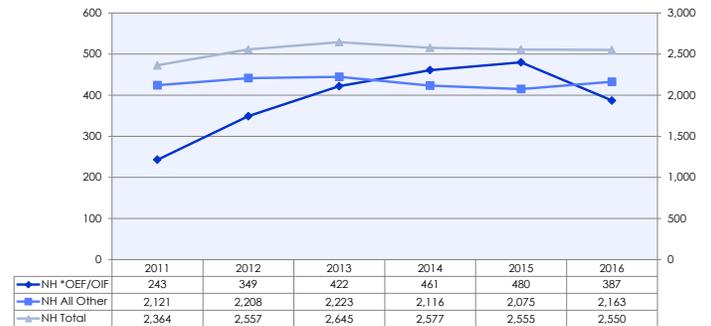
THE JOINT MILITARY TASK FORCE was established on December 15, 2015 per approval by the Chair of the Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Prevention, Treatment and Recovery. The Task Force reflects a 'joint' partnership between the Governor's Commission and the Commission on Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). The Joint Military Task Force serves as one of the six 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, veterans and their families through education and collaboration.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

- According to 2013 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) 1.5 million veterans aged 17 or older (6.6%) had a substance use disorder in the past year.
- Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey (YRBS) 2015 indicates that NH youth with military family members reported higher rates of alcohol and drug misuse than youth with non-military family members.
- Military wives were more likely to use alcohol in the past 30 days when compared with all married women aged 18 to 49, and were more likely to engage in binge drinking in the past 30 days. (NSDUH 2015)
- The rate of substance use disorders among veterans is 12.7% among those who served in the military since September 2001. (NSDUH 2013)

NH VETERANS* WITH A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) DIAGNOSIS *(OF THOSE WHO ACCESSED VA SERVICES)



*Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)/Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)(Post 9/11 veterans)
Source: Manchester VA Medical Center

Between 2011 and 2015, the number of OEF/OIF Veterans diagnosed with SUD increased significantly. The diagnoses of 'All Other Veterans' has remained relatively stable since 2011. It is unknown at this time the reasons behind these differences and the differing patterns of engagement with NH Veterans with an SUD.

2018 GOALS

STATE:

- Inform and educate providers and other stakeholders of training resources, both web-based and local.
- Reduce stigma.
- Further promotion of "Ask the Question" Campaign.
- Ongoing promotion of Military Culture Trainings.
- Collect additional local data to better represent military and service members in the state.
- Support Commission on PTSD and TBI.
- Support Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery.

FEDERAL:

- Educate federal partners on NH's barriers in providing prevention, early intervention, and treatment to veterans, service members and their families.
- Advocate for adequate funding.
- Encourage multisystem changes in federally-funded insurance programs to ensure parity.
- Promote NH local data at the federal level.

TASKFORCE LEADERSHIP AND UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Chair: Brigadier General David J. Mikolaities, Adjutant General, NH National Guard

Vice Chairs: Staff Sergeant Rick Frost, New Hampshire National Guard Counterdrug Task Force (Richard.Frost@dhhs.nh.gov);

Victoria Bagshaw, Housing Program Manager, Military & Veterans Services, Easterseals New Hampshire (mbagshaw@eastersealsnh.org)

Advisor: Dr. Andrew Breuder, Military Officers Association of America (abreuder@comcast.net)

The Joint Military Task Force meets on the third Thursday every other month, 9:30-11:30am in Room 460 of the NH Department of Health and Human Services, 129 Pleasant Street in Concord, NH. For upcoming meeting dates, please visit <http://nhcenterforexcellence.org/governors-commission/military-task-force/>