Join today’s event on social media & tag us!

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Twitter: @BlueStarFamily
Instagram: @BlueStarFamilies

#BSFSurvey #BSFStrong
BLUE STAR FAMILIES
2019 MILITARY FAMILY LIFESTYLE SURVEY

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STRONGER COMMUNITIES FOR A STRONGER AMERICA

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IN COLLABORATION WITH
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

MEDIA PARTNERS
MILITARY TIMES
THE HILL
TASK & PURPOSE
USAA
Strengthening Military Families: REACTIONS TO THE 2019 #BSFSURVEY RESULTS

DR. CAITLIN THOMPSON
Vice President of Community Partnerships, Cohen Veterans Network
Moderator
@CohenVeterans

HISAKO SONETHAVILAY
Director of Applied Research, Blue Star Families
@hsonethavilay

ROSALINDA VASQUEZ MAURY
Director of Applied Research & Analytics, Institute for Veterans and Military Families
@rvmauryIVMF
Strengthening Military Families: REACTIONS TO THE 2019 #BSFSURVEY RESULTS

Download at bluestarfam.org/survey
### Strengthening Military Families:
**REACTIONS TO THE 2019 #BSFSURVEY RESULTS**

#### Top-Five Issues of Concern for Active-Duty Military Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time away from family</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military spouse employment</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependent children’s education</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military family stability/quality of life</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of control over military career/uncertainty that accompanies</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>military life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Top Stressors for Active-Duty Military Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stressor</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial issues/stress</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocation issues</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolation from family/friends</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployments</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My/my civilian spouse’s employment challenges/inability of our family</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to reliably earn two incomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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#BSFSurvey
Incorporating Military Families Into Defense Policy

KATHY ROTH-DOUQUET
CEO, Blue Star Families
Moderator
@BlueStarKRD

MG TAMMY SMITH
Senior Military Advisor & Director, Quality of Life Assistant Secretary of the Army, U.S. Army
@MG_SmithT

RDML CARL LAHTI
Commandant, Naval District Washington, U.S. Navy
@CAPT_Lahti

BRIG GEN (S) SHAWN CAMPBELL
Director of Talent Management Innovation Cell, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower, Personnel, and Service, U.S. Air Force

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“In the 21st century, supporting the troops means supporting military families.”

KATHY ROTH-DOUQUET
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Access to Timely & Quality Healthcare for Military Families

40% of EFMP families can’t get a referral and be seen in a reasonable amount of time; most cited reasons are lengthy referral process and limited providers.

HELP-SEEKING AMONG MILITARY, VETERAN, NATIONAL GUARD, AND RESERVE FAMILIES WHO HAD SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED SUICIDE/HAD ATTEMPTED SUICIDE WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

48% received professional help

- Yes, Was Helpful: 29%
- Yes, Not Helpful: 19%
- Could Not Obtain Help: 8%
- No, Did Not Seek: 44%

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Syracuse University

Morgan Cope & Co., Founding Partner

Military Times

The Hill

Task & Purpose

USAA
Bolstering Military Family Belonging in Civilian Communities

JENNY KORN
Deputy Assistant to the President, Principal Deputy Director, Office of Public Liaison The White House
Moderator
@jennifersks

BRYAN TUCKER
Vice President of Corporate Communications, CSX
@CSX

MARK SANTIAGO
Divisional Vice President, Macy’s
@Macys

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Bolstering Military Family Belonging in Civilian Communities

40% do not feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community
27% neutral*

Families want better engagement, communication, and understanding from local civilians
Bolstering Military Family Belonging in Civilian Communities

Funded Chapter
- Baltimore and Chesapeake Bay *
- Chicago, IL *
- Craig Newmark NY Tri-State
- Dayton, OH *
- Jacksonville, FL *
- Missouri
- National Capital Region
- San Diego, CA
- Tampa, FL *
- Tennessee *
- Utah *
*powered by CSX

*Current as of 2/20/20

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USAA
Operation Feel at Home:
BUILDING COMMUNITIES ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

DR. TINA AHERALL
CEO, PsychArmor Institute
Moderator
@TinaAtherall

JOHN EHLE
President of Hunt Military Communities, Hunt Companies

RDML (RET) CHARLES WILLIAMS
COO, Armed Service YMCA
@ASYMCA

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Operation Feel at Home:
BUILDING COMMUNITIES ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

TOP ON-INSTALLATION SERVICES/BENEFITS THAT NEEDED THE MOST IMPROVEMENTS

1. Base Housing

2. Military Childcare (Child Development Centers and Family Childcare)
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Tackling Spouse Employment: NO ONE SOLUTION

BETH CONLIN  
Senior Program Manager of Military Spouse Programs, Amazon  
Moderator  
@bconlin15

LIZ O’BRIEN  
Senior Director of Military Spouse Program, Hiring Our Heroes  
@LizOBrien30

IRIS COLLIS  
Veteran Spouse, Cyber Training Program Graduate

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Tackling Spouse Employment: NO ONE SOLUTION

24% Unemployed (in labor force and actively seeking work)

Flexible work: flexible scheduling, remote/telework

Underemployment Circumstances

77% of employed military spouses are underemployed

- Pay lower than education level: 42%
- Pay lower than work experience: 42%
- Overqualified for current position: 40%
- Pay lower than previous position: 31%
- Worked fewer hours than wanted: 25%
**Tackling Spouse Employment:**

**NO ONE SOLUTION**

**MILITARY-FOCUSED HIRING INITIATIVES MAY NOT SPEAK TO MILITARY SPOUSES AS THEY DO FOR VETERANS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Military Spouses</th>
<th>Veterans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Felt employers in their local area were not eager to hire military-affiliated individuals</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believed that employers in the local community would not accommodate the needs of military-affiliated employees</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Women in Uniform:
THE TRANSITION EXPERIENCES OF TODAY

BG (RET) CAROL EGGERT
Senior Vice President of Military and Veteran Affairs, Comcast NBCUniversal
Moderator
@carol_eggert

BGEN LORNA MAHLOCK
Director, Information Command, Control, Communications, and Computer (C4) Division, Deputy Commandant for Information U.S. Marine Corps

LTC OLIVIA NUNN
Director of Communication, U.S. Army Soldier for Life, U.S. Army
@csaSoldier4Life

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Women in Uniform: The Transition Experiences of Today

Top Issues Ranked by Gender

**Female Service Members**
- Amount of time away from family: 54%
- Military family stability: 48%
- Lack of military career control: 42%
- Dependent children’s education: 35%
- Access to military/VA health care: 28%
- Military pay (also 28%)

**Male Service Members**
- Amount of time away from family: 47%
- Military family stability: 42%
- Lack of military career control: 41%
- Military pay: 35%
- Dependent children’s education: 31%
“Women veterans have different challenges in the community. Many of them go unrecognized in their status as veterans, or if they are married to a male veteran, he gets the recognition and they are ignored [...] Looking into how the military and civilian community can better identify and support female veterans would be meaningful.”

FEMALE NAVY VETERAN
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Why it All Matters?
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A STRONGER AMERICA

HARRIET DOMINIQUE
Senior Vice President of Corporate Responsibility & Community Affairs, USAA
Moderator
@HarrietDominiq

MARA MOTHERWAY
Vice President, Head of Government Relations, Booz Allen Hamilton
@BoozAllen

MEAGAN CAMPION
Director of Social Impact, Lockheed Martin Corporation
@meagancampion

STEPHANIE POWERS
Senior Advisor of Public Policy and Partnerships, Council on Foundations
@COF_

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Why it All Matters?
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A STRONGER AMERICA

Respondents’ perceptions of civilian understanding and appreciation of military service and sacrifice

47% feel their local civilian community has limited awareness of, appreciation, understanding, support, and respect for military and veteran families.


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