

Highlights of DGMPRA Research Currently Being Conducted Related to Military Families

Current as of December 2015

** research often delayed by POR approvals and CMP-directed priorities*

TITLE	OBJECTIVE	STATUS*
Efficacy of Deployment Programs on Family Resilience	To conduct a lit review comparing deployment programs/resources in TTCP nations and the effects (if any) they have on family resilience.	Research FYs 13-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Efficacy of Therapeutic Models / Programs on the Resilience of Children of a Parent Coping with a CAF Service Related Loss, Illness or Injury	An assessment of the efficacy of education and support programs/models targeted to children of a parent with a CAF service related injury, illness or loss, with a specific emphasis on the type of strategies most effective at explaining, normalizing and promoting resilience. Examples of programs include E=MC3, iSTEP, YPET, FAN Club, Friend for Life, Kids Have Stress Too, Rainbows, etc.	Research FYs 13-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Expert Testimony on Military Family Research	To continually update (as required) a 2011 publication produced by DGMPRA entitled Military Family Research: Expert Testimony presented by S. Truscott (DGMPRA) with the most up-to-date DGMPRA data available.	Research FYs 13-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Qualitative Analysis of CAF Support Services For Military Spouses	To conduct an analysis of qualitative comments related to CAF support services made by CAF spouses in the 2012 Quality of Life Among Military Families: A Survey of Spouses/Partners of CAF Members.	Research FYs 14-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Family Resilience Amidst Illness and Injury	To examine the impact of illness or injury on CAF families and identify the factors that promote and maintain resilience of military families.	Research FYs 15-18; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 17-18
Families of CAF Personnel Transitioning Out	To examine the needs of families of CAF personnel transitioning through the release process.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
The Effects of Elder Care on CAF Personnel	To examine the psychological and social burdens experienced by CAF personnel who are caring for elderly relatives.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Families of Class A Reservists	To examine the unique challenges experienced by families of Class A Reservists, with particular emphasis on the challenges faced accessing military-based programs and services.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Study on Military Children: Phase I	This study will examine the effects of various aspects of the military lifestyle on the well-being of military children.	ON HOLD

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Impact of Repeated Absences and Postings of Single Parents on the Child Parent Relationship: Phase I	An assessment of single parent child relationships within the context of non-transient and transient parental lifestyle, including an assessment of the more common family support requirements (i.e., variety of child care, family leave, mental health services, etc.) for each target audience.	ON HOLD
Work-Life Balance and Resilience of Single Military Parents	To examine work-life balance in single-parent military families and the impact of poor balance on the adjustment and resilience of single parents.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Resilience of Adolescents from Military Families	To examine the resilience of adolescents from military families and the risk factors that decrease resilience.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
The Impact of Relocation on Single-Parent Military Families	To examine the impact of relocation on the well-being and resilience of single parent military families.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
The Impact of Deployments on Adolescents in Military Families	To examine the impact of deployment on attachment among adolescents from military families.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
The Role of Social Support in the Well-Being of Youth from Military Families	To examine the protective factors, especially social support, that can buffer the negative impact of military life stressors on the well-being of youth from military families.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
The Effects of Military Postings on Youth	To examine the negative impacts of frequent military postings on adolescents in military families.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Imposed Restriction: The Impact on Families	To examine the impact of imposed restriction on the well-being of military families.	Research FYs 09-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Spousal QOL Survey	Measuring the impact of PERSTEMPO and other factors on CAF families in terms of individual and family well-being/quality of life.	Research FYs 11-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Awareness of Financial Vulnerability, Health, and Security of Military Members and Their Families	A comprehensive study on military family incomes in relation to assets/equity, consumer debt, expenditures, financial knowledge, savings, and overall current financial health of military families.	Research FYs 14-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Military Family Finances	To conduct a comprehensive study on military family finances.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17

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JPSU Review: Measuring Services Rendered to Ill/Injured Members, Retired Members, and their Families	Assess the performance of the process and services provided by the JPSU across Canada to ill and injured service members and their families.	Research FYs 13-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Well-being and Quality of Life of CAF Families: The Role of JPSUs (Pilot Study)	To examine the role of the JPSU in helping ill and injured CAF members make the transition back to work or from military to civilian life and to assess the impact of illness/injury on members' family relationships and the impact of these relationships on members recovery/rehabilitation.	Research FYs 14-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Assessing the Effects of Attachment on Marital Functioning Following Separation and Reunion After Deployment	To assess how attachment affects marital functioning amongst couples who are separated due to military deployment.	Research FYs 12-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Family Violence	To examine the impact of family violence on the well-being of military spouses.	Research FYs 13-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Impact of Repeated Postings on Family Resilience	An assessment (using secondary data analysis) of the impact of frequent postings on the resilience of families, including an assessment of family support requirements for each target audience.	Research FYs 13-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Family Needs Analysis on RCAF Wings	To determine the needs of families on RCAF Wings, including housing, access to health care, and child care.	Research FYs 14-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Impact of Military Life on Military Spouse Resiliency	To examine how military spouses/partners respond effectively to the adversities associated with military life.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Impact of Military Life on Military Spousal Employment	To examine how military spousal/partner employment is impacted by the military lifestyle.	Research FYs 15-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Family and Community Resilience: Building Community Capacity Model for CAF Family Support	The objective of this project is to develop a resilience-oriented, capacity building model for military communities, and then translate the model into concrete steps (e.g., training program) for implementing and sustaining community capacity.	Research FYs 13-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16
Social Media and Family Support	To explore the expansion of the social media reach of DMFS in order to meet the needs of a growing audience and to provide resources and information to CAF families and those who support them.	Research FYs 14-16; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 15-16

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'Family Snapshot' Analysis Based on the 2013 CAF Mental Health Survey	The aim of this project is to provide a descriptive account of the characteristics of CAF families based on the 2013 CAF Mental Health Survey and explore the relationships of these attributes with health well-being among Regular Force members.	Research FYs 14-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 16-17
Testing and Optimizing R2MR Mental Health Training for Military Family Members	Road to Mental Readiness (R2MR) is a CAF mental health education training package that includes a series of briefings/modules addressing each of the 6 stages of the deployment cycle for military personnel and their families. It aims to prepare CAF personnel, leaders, and their families to identify and meet the challenges related to deployed operations and geographical family separations. The efficacy of the R2MR program has been tested in all modules except those related to family components. Yet the family components are consistently being delivered to military families across Canada by MFRC professionals.	Research FY 16-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 17-18
Trends Analysis of Military Family Demographics	All MFSP policies and procedures are undergoing revision based on recommendations of the 2012-13 CRS and DND Ombudsman investigations. One of the key findings raised in their reports was that Canadian military families have patently changed from previous generations, and that the services currently being provided to military families have not taken these changes into consideration. To ensure that any changes to the MFS Program envelope all Canadian military families, the changes in their demographics over time needs to be explored through available historical data.	Research FY 16-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 17-18
Impact of Military Life on Parents of Military Members	Recently the MFS Program expanded its populations served to include parents of single-serving military members. However, the only formal documentation in which the primary next of kin (often the parents) is recorded by CAF - the Personal Emergency Notification form - cannot be shared with MFRCs. As such, MFRCs have had difficulty connecting with this population to be able to determine their needs, develop programs that address their needs or deliver effective services to them. To improve service and financial efficiencies, MFS requires a better understanding of the realities and support needs of parents of single-serving military members.	Research FY 16-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 17-18
Secondary Analysis of Qualitative Data from Spousal Quality of Life	Findings from top line presentation show that a decreasing number of military families are using MFRC services and programs from the previous survey conducted in 2008-2009. The reasons for this decline are not understand, and do not seem consistent with reports from MFRCs who are suggesting an increase in demand for services. To ensure that the MFSP is meeting the needs of all military families, and that MFRCs' service and financial efficiencies are achieved, MFS requires a better understanding of the military families who are choosing not to use MFRC services and programs. Secondary analysis of the qualitative data from the Spousal Quality of Life Survey may explore whether these families are choosing services through other providers or simply not in need of additional supports.	Research FY 16-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 17-18

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Testing and Optimizing Transitions Services for Medically Releasing Military Family Members	MFS is piloting a new program in collaboration with Veterans Affairs Canada and 7 MFRCs to support the transition of medically releasing military members and their families. There are a variety of evidence-informed strategies that will be implemented, but the efficacy of these have not been tested. The efficacy of the pilot project activities and strategies to support the transitions of medically releasing personnel and their families must be tested to ensure outcomes and financial efficiencies are being achieved. Ideally this testing would include recommendations for optimization of the pilot to ensure future success of a possible national expansion.	Research FY 16-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 17-18
The Quality of Life Survey of Military Families	CAF families face a number of challenges associated with the military lifestyle, which may negatively impact CAF families in terms of individual and family well-being. In order to ensure that CAF families have the resources and support to be their best, the CAF have been conducting a large-scale survey of CAF spouses since 2005. The new administration of the survey will focus on the impact of the military lifestyle on CAF families in terms of spousal and family well-being, and the results of the survey are used to identify opportunities to optimize CAF family support. The aim of the QOL survey is to assess the impact of military lifestyle on CAF families in terms of individual and family well-being, and measure their awareness and the utility of CAF family support programs and services.	Research FY 16-17; Findings Report Anticipated in FY 17-18