Headquarters U.S. Air Force

Integrity - Service - Excellence

RFI #11: Domestic Violence (DV) Affecting Servicewomen



Air Force Family Advocacy Program Joint Base San Antonio, Lackland, TX 20 March 2019

U.S. AIR FORCE

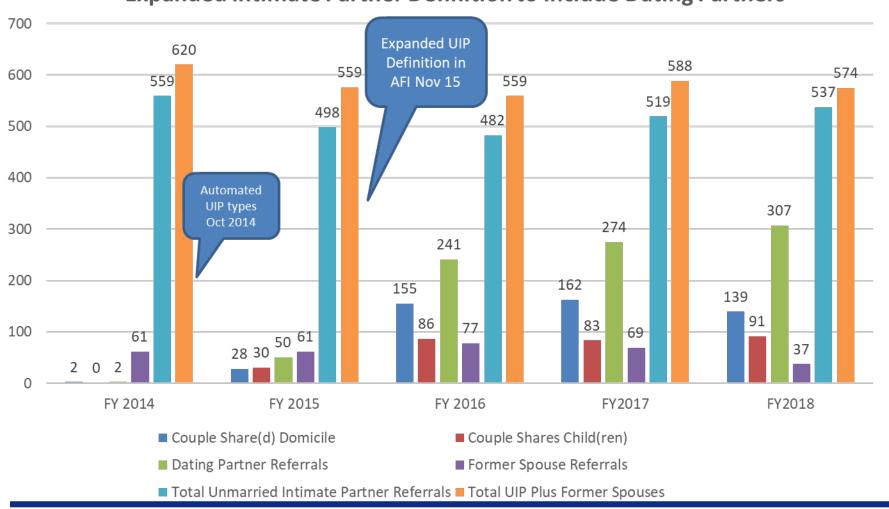


- 11a. Definitions of DV and Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).
 - Domestic Violence An offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or State law involving the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person who is: 1. A current or former spouse; 2. A person with whom the alleged abuser shares a child in common; or 3. A current or former intimate partner with whom the alleged abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.



Incident Referrals

Expanded Intimate Partner Definition to Include Dating Partners





- 11b. Tracking DV and IPV incidents.
 - The Air Force Family Advocacy Program (FAP) uses an established information technology system (a.k.a. FAPNet) to manage its operations from prevention through treatment
 - The Family Advocacy System of Records (FASOR) module within FAPNet is used to log incident referrals and document details of each case
 - Cases tracked by case number or social security number
 - Cases can be logged as No Reasonable Suspicion, No Assessment Warranted, Restricted Report or a maltreatment case to be taken to our Incident Determination Committee
 - FAPNet and FASOR (as well as the associated processes) are independent of the data systems and processes used by law enforcement or investigative services



- 11c. Data collection, maintenance, and access.
 - Data is collected at each installation
 - Ultimately, the data systems and data are centrally managed at the Air Force FAP level
 - Permissions to access this data are centrally managed and strictly controlled
 - If data needs to be transferred from installation to installation, this can be done within the FAPNet system
 - FAP data is maintained under an individual's identifying information until disposed of in accordance with a published disposition plan
 - Limited clinical documentation is entered into a service member's medical record
 - FAP-related data is not entered into a personnel record unless done so by the command through a disciplinary process



- 11d. Communication, coordination, and notification with civilian authorities
 - The Air Force's Standardized Family Advocacy Referral Form lists mandatory notifications that must be made by FAP staff at the time a referral is received (e.g., Office of Special Investigations, Chain of Command, Child Protective Services)
 - Commanders and key agencies (such as Law Enforcement or medical staffs) are trained on mandates and expectations for FAP referrals
 - Receiving reports from off the installation is an acknowledged challenge – positive relationships with installation Law Enforcement are critical to keep the information flowing
 - Domestic Abuse Victims Advocates (DAVAs) are invaluable assets to link on/off installation entities



- 11e. Command support when the alleged offender is a non-military member
 - Well-trained First Sergeants can be incredible resources for making things happen
 - Encourage interaction with the DAVA to support engagement with the local legal system (e.g., civilian order of protection)
 - Utilize the available military structure
 - Availability of on-base billeting
 - Restriction to base access
 - Permanent Change of Station (PCS) options
 - A challenge is balancing command views of needed safety interventions with the individual's own desires
 - Another challenge is funding for certain tangible needs (e.g., temporary lodging)



- 11f. Factors involved when a DV victim lives on versus off the installation
 - Factors can be dependent on the beneficiary status of the alleged offender and corresponding base access
 - If a servicewoman's beneficiary is the abuser, separating for safety could mean financial hardship to establish two domiciles, even temporarily
 - If the abuser is a non-beneficiary, disallowing or removing base access can be used as a tool for safety
 - On-base living arrangements can possibly allow for closer monitoring of the situation by command and installation law enforcement
 - Crisis shelter options can be a challenge on or off base; children and pets exacerbate this challenge



- 11g. Restraining orders when two members are assigned to the same base or same unit
 - Restraining orders would be honored and civilian restraining orders would typically be supported by a Military Order of Protection from the commander
 - The verbal no-contact order may actually come first; it is much quicker in response to an initial allegation
 - Options are typically command driven, with FAP acting in the role of consultant
 - One or both members may be moved to different duty sections or different units – sometimes this means a member may be "on loan" to an organization outside her/his career field
 - Personnel movement actions (i.e., PCS) may be on the table



QUESTIONS?