

# Military Dependent Facts & Supports

- **6-9:** Average moves for a military child K-12
- **50:** States have signed the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
- **80%:** Military Children attending Public Schools & are in most school districts
- **2009:** Virginia signed into law the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
- **2016:** Virginia now has the highest number of dependents of Active Duty
- **State Legislation:** VDOE requires all school Districts to implement a Military student Identifier; 2015-16SY
- **Federal Legislation:** ESSA will require all schools districts to implement a Military Student Identifier; 2018-19 SY
- **FCPS:** 11,200 dependents of Active duty based on Impact Aid.
- **PWCS:** 7300 dependents of Active duty based on Impact Aid
- **April:** Month of the Military Child (MOMC)
- **November:** Month of the Military family (MOMF)
- **Tutor.com/home:** Free online tutoring for K-12 for dependents
- **Military Family Life Consultants (MFLC):** Free counseling for Military
- **School Liaison Officer (SLO):** Resource for all transitioning military families, Educators and the community.

# Military Data & War Trauma

Military families are at risk of developing secondary PTSD. Children in military families are exposed to stress levels that could be considered toxic according to The American Academy of Pediatrics. The National Center for Child Traumatic Stress notes that, "Military children experience unique challenges related to military life and culture. These include deployment-related stressors and reintegration." Military children live with the constant fear of losing a parent, parental separation, moving and making new friends, all while living in a household with one often overloaded parent holding down the fort. The dynamics of welcoming a returning parent that has been injured physically or mentally is real. Children often mimic behaviors of a returning parent with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Even an at home parent struggling with anxiety can have a significant impact on their children's well-being. Managing stress as a family needs to be a high priority.

- WWI (1917-1918): 4,734,991; WWII (1941-1945): 16,112,566 ; Korean War (1950-1953) 5,720,000; Vietnam War (1964-1975): 8,744,000; Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990-1991): 2,322,000
- US Population 325,482,580; Current Armed Forces 1,332,987 (Peak 2003: 1,437,450)
- **.42 %** of the population serve in an all-volunteer Armed Force
- **16 years**: longest war in recent history
- Current Service members have/are experiencing more deployments and combat days than any other wars in recent history.
- On average 5-6 Suicides per week of Active Duty Service Members
- **Terms**: Combat Trauma, PTSD/Symptoms, Secondary PTSD/ Traumatic stress (STS), TBI
- **Previous Wars**: Shell Shock, Battle Fatigue, War Anxiety, etc

Source: U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Defense Manpower Data Center, Total Force Suicide Pentagon Report Sept 2017.