



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
87TH AIR BASE WING (AMC)
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ**

09 June 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL JB MDL UNITS

FROM: JB MDL/CC

SUBJECT: Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL) Warrior Connect Peer-to-Peer Program

1. **Background and Purpose.** To outline the Warrior Connect Program and the impact of peer-to-peer support and connectedness, to maximize the visibility of those who can link members with helping agencies, and to reduce the stigma of seeking help for our military, DOD civilians and family members at JB MDL. Many of our military, DOD civilians, and family members are certified with skills in prevention and resilience. These members are fully capable and willing to provide support and resources to someone who may be struggling with military and/or life challenges. However, these skilled individuals are not easily identifiable. The JB MDL Warrior Connect Program will provide a way for the JB MDL community to identify members who are skilled and ready to provide support and resources to anyone wanting to seek help. The ability for someone to easily identify these individuals when support is needed most could be a life-saving difference for someone in distress.

2. **Warrior Connect Tab and Warrior Connect Pin.** The JB MDL Installation Commander authorizes a 6-month beta test wear of the Warrior Connect Tab for military and the Warrior Connect Pin for DOD civilians and spouses after they meet all requirements outlined in this memorandum. The Warrior Connect Team will provide resources and assistance to anyone on JB MDL regardless of unit or military affiliation. Beta test wear data will be collected and presented to AMC at a later date.

3. **Eligibility Criteria for Warrior Connect Status.** Open to all military, DOD civilians, and spouses who meet one or more of the following:

a. Are certified in and maintain an active trainer status in one or more of the following areas: Resilience (MRT or RTA), Prevention, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), or safeTALK.

b. Has completed safeTALK or ASIST within the last 2 years.

c. Has a certification and/or degree in a field that is applicable to this program.

4. **Award of Warrior Connect Tab and Warrior Connect Pin.** Initial award of the Warrior Connect Tab for military and Warrior Connect Pin for DOD civilians and spouses requires:

a. Commander/Leadership endorsement

- b. Interview with IPRO
 - c. Complete the 1-day Warrior Connect training.
 - (1) Helping Agencies 101 Course.
 - (2) Connect to Care Overview.
 - (3) Crisis intervention.
 - (4) Statement of Understanding signed by Commander/Leadership.
 - (5) Warrior Connect Certificate of Training issued by IPRO.
5. Duties and Roles to Maintain Warrior Connect Status.
- a. Always maintain the highest standards.
 - b. Be knowledgeable of resources and provide support and referrals based on the individual's needs.
 - c. Track all official interactions with the community as a Warrior Connect Team member and report data to IPRO at the end of each month (no PII will be collected).
 - d. Attend quarterly meetings for Warrior Connect updates and trends.
 - e. Annual review of Statement of Understanding.
6. Removal of Warrior Connect Status.
- a. Conduct unbecoming of the Warrior Connect Program.
 - b. Unexcused and excessive absences from quarterly meetings.
 - c. Failure to meet Statement of Understanding.
 - d. Commander/Leadership may remove for any reason.
7. Wear of the Warrior Connect Tab and Warrior Connect Pin. Signifies active status as a Warrior Connect Team member and completed all requirements. The JB MDL Installation Commander authorizes wear of the Warrior Connect Tab for military and Warrior Connect Pin for DOD civilians and spouses assigned to JB MDL during this beta test wear window.
- a. Wear of Warrior Connect Tab for military will be worn on top sleeve of Velcro above the HHQ patch.

(1) In accordance with (IAW) DAFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel.

(2) Members of other service branches assigned to JB MDL may wear the Warrior Connect Tab IAW with this memorandum and their service Commander approval.

b. Warrior Connect Pin for DOD civilians and spouses will be worn on upper left side near their heart.

c. Warrior Connect Team members may wear the Warrior Connect Tab on JB MDL and in the local area per the Installation Commander. Wear of the Warrior Connect Tab is not permitted at other military installations.

8. This memo outlines the Warrior Connect Program and will be strictly enforced. Please contact Janis Doss, Chief, Prevention or Crista Brady-Szabo, Prevention Analyst at (609) 754-5718 or email the IPRO office at 87ABW.CVB.IPRO@us.af.mil.



B. WESLEY ADAMS, Colonel, USAF
Commander