



eXtension – Military Families Monthly Report

Reporting Period: 16 December 2010 – 15 January 2011

1. Significant Activities:

- **Amendment to the Plan of Work, Amended Budget, & Amended Budget Narrative:** The Amended Plan of Work is completed and the associated budget and narrative are in process at the appropriate university sponsored programs offices for primary contract review (UNL, Auburn, NCSU, UGA, UNH). Subcontract reviews are in process as well as part of this process (NCSU, NDSU, Rutgers, UF, ISU, WSU, UI). The expectation is to have these documents to NIFA in very early February, 2011.
- **Resource Site:** The Resource Site (<http://militaryfamilies.extension.org>) continues to show progress with increasing capability and activity. Final adjustments to the *Child Care and Youth Program Training and Technical Assistance* program materials are being made and will be placed on the Site in the near future. Conversations continue to engage other projects in the Partnership.
- **CoP public Web presence:** Planning and organization to establish a public Web presence and focal point for the Military Families CoP is ongoing, including work with the various Concentration Area work teams, NIFA staff, and eXtension leadership. Initial planning for the social media strategies associated with three Concentration Areas (Personal Finance, Child Care, Family & Youth Development) is complete. The work teams for each of these Concentration Areas have formalized their proposals and the Military Families CoP leadership has approved the plans.
- **Network Literacy CoP:** The application to form the CoP has been submitted to eXtension for approval. The plan of work and budget for this CoP is included in the Amended document package to be forwarded to NIFA in early February.

- **Environmental Scan:** The deadline for the environmental scan survey that was re-launched on 15 December 2010 to the selected audience of 4-H Military Liaisons has been extended to January 21 2011 to accommodate personnel who were off campus on break or leave during the last two weeks of December 2010.

2. Current deliverable(s), activity, goals/objectives

- **Amendment to the Plan of Work, Amended Budget, & Amended Budget Narrative:** The primary activity for this reporting period has been the development, revision, and editing of these documents. The Plan of Work is completed and the budgets and narratives are in their final stages.
- **Resource Site:** This internal work site (<http://militaryfamilies.extension.org>) continues to evolve meeting the needs of the Partnership as it develops. Education continues on how to place material on the site with those currently involved. A majority of the recent work has been with *Project Y.E.S., Child Care and Youth Program Training and Technical Assistance, Military Extension Internship Program, Building Community Capacity, 4-H Out-of-School Programs, and Community Gardening*. In addition, a significant amount of work/design has gone into creating user friendly forms for this Site.
- **CoP public Web presence:** We are in the final stages of planning/approval with hope to launch this effort very early in 2011.
- **Environmental Scan:** The 4-H Military Liaisons have until Friday, 31 December 2010 to complete the follow-up second wave of the Environmental Scan. Analyses are ongoing and the second wave data will be evaluated when collection is complete. A report will be passed on to Extension Directors and other key leaders beginning in January 2011. Next steps will develop from the analyses of this new information. Initially and primarily connected to this effort, as well as other portions of the Military Families CoP, is an Evaluation Research Professor position that is in the final stages of approval/selection/hiring process.

3. Action still needed to complete the current deliverable(s)

- **Amendment to the Plan of Work, Amended Budget, & Amended Budget Narrative:** Budgetary approval at various institutions (contract and subcontract) is required to move these documents forward. It is currently in process.
- **Resource Site:** Collaboration and effort continues on the part of Lead Institutions, eXtension engineering staff, and Military Families CoP leadership to expand the Site.

- **CoP Public Web presence:** Once submitted, approval for re-allocation of funding to launch these efforts is needed.
- **Network Literacy CoP:** Once submitted, approval for re-allocation of funding to launch these efforts is needed.
- **Environmental Scan:** Second wave data is to be collected by 21 January 2011 and then analyses and reporting can be conducted.

4. Relevant challenges that need attention from DoD/NIFA

- Regular feedback is always appreciated and necessary to ensure the Military Families CoP efforts are headed in the right direction to serve and accomplish the goals and vision of the Partnership.

5. Success stories that would be of interest to USDA and or DoD Leadership

- The Military Families CoP continues to grow with **93** members and leaders.
- The Network Literacy CoP continues to grow with **76** members and leaders.
- eXtension was notified of acceptance for **6** proposals of various topics related to the Military Families CoP for the Family Resilience Conference in Chicago.