

Blue Star Families 2010 Military Family Lifestyle Survey Release

September 22, 2010 - Washington, DC

Maria Bright, MSCCN volunteer, attended the Blue Star Families 2010 Military Family Lifestyle Survey Release, supporting “Military Family Empowerment, Wellness, and Community.” Blue Star Families announced the result of its 2010 Military Family Lifestyle Survey on September 22, 2010 in Washington, DC at the Congressional Auditorium located in the United States Capitol Visitor’s Center. Members of the Senate and Congressional Military Family Caucus, including Senator Barbara Boxer of California, Congressman Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. of Georgia, Congressman Glenn Nye of Virginia, Doug Wilson, Department of Defense Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, and Mrs. Sheila Casey, spouse of Gen. George W. Casey, Jr. were some of guest speakers at this event.



Inside the United States Capitol Visitor’s Center

The 18-month long online study surveyed 3,634 military family members located nationwide and overseas. The survey revealed five major key issues that military families were most concern with: 1) current operation tempo (OPTEMPO), 2) the effect of deployments on children, 3) children’s education, 4) spousal employment, and 5) financial matters.



Blue Star Families 2010 Military Family Lifestyle Survey Release Panel

The study brings about a better understanding of what military families experience as a whole and how they are coping with the stressors associated with the ongoing involvement of U.S. forces in Afghanistan and Iraq. For example, forty-nine percent of spouses surveyed stated maintaining a career is not conducive to the military family lifestyle. Childcare, deployments, and PCS moves were reported to be the main contributors to why many spouses choose to stay at home rather than work. Others reported that some employers viewed them as transient workers and were not as willing to hire a military spouse, which is one example of what military families worldwide are experiencing within their civilian communities.

It is expected that this survey will serve to better educate public officials, policy makers, various organizations, and the general public about the unique challenges that military families endure and, from what is learned, will result in better policy making that will harness a more effective and more efficient way in handling the needs of the military family.

The 2010 survey results can viewed online at <http://bluestarfam.org/drupal/survey2010>.



List of Partner Organizations, including MSCCN

MSCCN was pleased to support Blue Star Families in this endeavor.