

# CAP Ministry to New Hampshire's Citizen – Soldiers and Their Families



# Briefing Officer

**Chaplain, Captain, Michael Morison, CAP**

- **Assistant Wing Chaplain, NH Wing**
- **Assigned to JFHQ - NH State Chaplain, NH National Guard**



# Citizen - Soldiers

- They are friends, neighbors, co-workers and fellow church members
- Have a “boot in two worlds”
  - 89 % of time in community
  - 11% of time in drills and annual training
- Family spends 1% +/- with Guard



# Deployment

- Guard units being activated for 15 – 18 months
- Guard units are “boots down” for 12 months



Eric Feferberg / APF



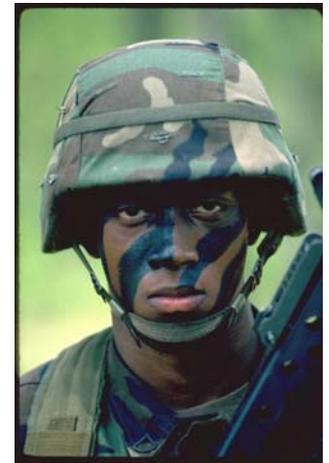
# Families – Suddenly Military

- National Guard Families engage the military family support system
- Guard families primary secure base is their local community and church
- Guard families now have a “boot in two worlds” (their community and the military family)

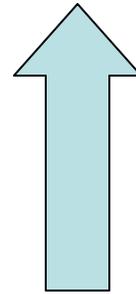


# Emotional Cycle of Deployment

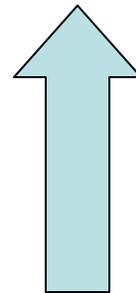
- Predeployment (varies)
- Deployment (1<sup>st</sup> month)
- Sustainment (“boots down”)
- Re-deployment (last month)
- Reentry & Reintegration (3 - 6 months after deployment)



New Normal



Temporary Normal

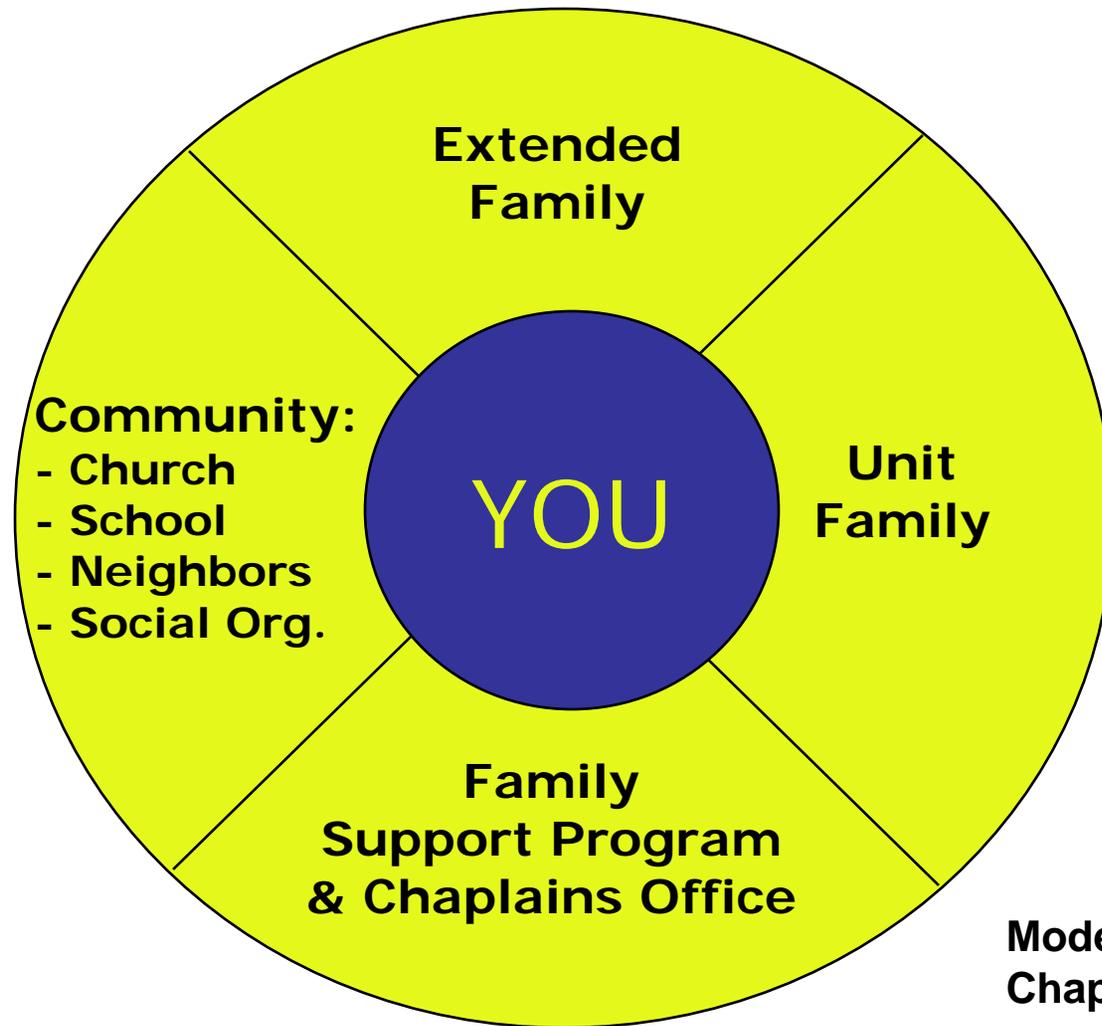


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# Sphere of Support



Model developed by  
Chaplain Morison, CAP





# Critical Incident Model

- Deployment is the event (spans the length of deployment)
- Constant background level of stress
- Critical Incidents (injuries, deaths, and other issues) impact daily background stress level
- Long term critical incident model

Model developed by  
Chaplain Morison, CAP

# Soldiers and Marines Experienced

- Were attacked/ambushed 92.5%
- Saw buddy wounded 23.9%
- Had hand-to-hand combat 15.8%
- Caused death of enemy 55.7%
- Caused death of non-combatant 20.2%
- Saw bodies/remains 94.5%
- Knew someone injured/killed 85.0%

# Soldiers and Marines Experienced

- Have handled corpses or human remains 50+%
- Saw women or children who couldn't be helped 75.4%
- Saved soldier or civilian 20.2%
- Were wounded or injured 11.6%
- Had "close call," but were saved by protective gear 8.6%

Summary: Army Medical Study in NEJM  
& Published by Boston Globe 7/1/05



# CONSEQUENCES

- Increase in the divorce rate
- Increase in alcohol abuse
- Increase in drug abuse
- Increase in spousal abuse
- Increase in child abuse
- Increase in suicide
- Increase in vehicle accidents/death

# New Combat Vets Need Your Help

- Soldiers talking to soldiers
- Need “natural occurring communities”
- Community embraces returning soldiers



Romeo Gacad / AFP





# Reentry & Reintegration

- With the family
- With the job
- With the community
- With the church



Our Mission:

No warrior

left behind,

No family

left behind





# Before Engaging In This Ministry

- Am I willing to see this through to the end?
- Am I willing to work collaboratively with the Family Support Group and Chaplain's Office?
- Am I willing to participate in the necessary continuing education to understand the issues, needs and to acquire the skills necessary to exercise this ministry?

# Finally

- Do I have what it takes to enter into a ministry which deals with complex grief, loss and significant stressor events which strain spouses and families?



# NHNG Ministry

- Ministry of Presence
- Servant – Leader
- Co-labor as member of Unit Ministry Team
- Creative Ministry
- Ongoing Learner





# Ministry Experience

- It is a demanding ministry spiritually, physically, psychologically and emotionally.
- “This is one of the most demanding, and the most rewarding ministries that have been involved in.”



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