## An Invitation to Apply to Become a Military & Family Life Counselor

- Have you been looking for a change of pace, while still doing meaningful work?
- Have you considered a career providing counseling outside of the classic 50minute hour?
- Are you flexible and do you adapt well to changing environments?
- Do you like the challenge of learning new skills and the opportunity to build your skill set?
- Are you comfortable with diversity and eager to learn about new cultures?

If you answered yes to the questions above, then you may want to learn more about this exciting opportunity to support Active Duty Military Service members and military families!

The MHN Government Services (MHNGS) Military & Family Life Counseling (MFLC) network is seeking mental health practitioners for rewarding opportunities within the MFLC Program!

The MFLC program provides in-person, confidential, non-medical counseling services to Active Duty, Guard and Reserve service members and their families. This innovative program began in 2004 in response to unprecedented high levels of deployments of U.S. military service members to locations such as Iraq, Afghanistan and other areas of world conflict. Initiated by the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP), the non-medical counseling model is designed to address issues that occur across the military lifestyle and help service members and their families cope with normal reactions to stressful/adverse situations. The counseling approach is psycho-educational and supportive in nature, addressing conditions of living, life skills, relationship and marital challenges, stress management and adjustment issues such as fear, grief and loss.

Non- Medical Military & Family Life Counselors (MFLCs) provide private and confidential, short-term, situational, problem-solving counseling support, targeted to ensure that personal and family issues of military service members do not detract from military operational readiness. Counselors work in many locations including military brigades, DODEA schools, child and youth centers and supporting SOCOM, working closely with Special Forces.

The MFLC program currently provides counseling services at 223 military installations and nearby civilian communities located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories and commonwealths, and 17 foreign countries. These services are intended to augment, not replace, other DoD support services, programs or their staff and instead provide a "walk-around/coaching" approach with services delivered via a highly flexible 40 hour work week.

MFLCs fill "rotational" assignments that typically range between six and twelve months in length with intermittent shorter term opportunities ranging from a few days to a few months in length. Rotational assignments can be "back to back" essentially providing the opportunity for year-long engagements.

The contract requires that MFLCs have graduated from an accredited school at the master's and/or Ph.D., level with a behavioral health related degree, be currently licensed to practice independently\* must speak fluent English and must be a U.S. citizen.

Counselors best suited for this work:

- ✓ Have an understanding and appreciation for the military lifestyle.
- ✓ Have sensitivity and empathy for service members and their families with the ability to develop trusting, helping relationships and work effectively with individuals and families from diverse racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

- ✓ Have the ability and confidence to intervene in crisis situations, using sound professional judgment, ethical practice, and common sense.
- ✓ Have the ability work independently to develop, implement, and evaluate safety and intervention plans to meet individual and family needs.

If you are interested in employment opportunities as a Special Professional Associate hired by Centene for the MFLC program, <u>click here</u>.

If you are interested in joining MHNGS' counselor network as a MFLC Independent Contractor, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Counselors have described this work as the most meaningful and life-changing work they have ever done. We encourage you to consider this worthwhile opportunity. Thank you for your interest.

\*i.e., no registered interns, or counselors requiring licensed supervision