



Ask the Expert Webinar Chat Series

Presented by the
National Resource Center on ADHD



**National
Resource
Center
on AD|HD**
A Program of CHADD



STOMP

Specialized Training Of Military Parents

Ask the Expert: ADHD & Military Families: Resources for Service Members



Heather Hebdon, Founder
Specialized Training of
Military Parents (STOMP)

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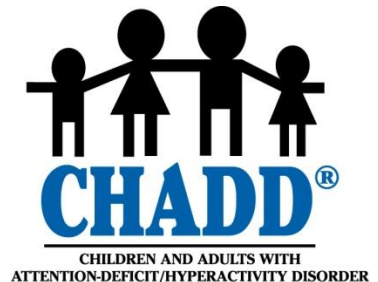
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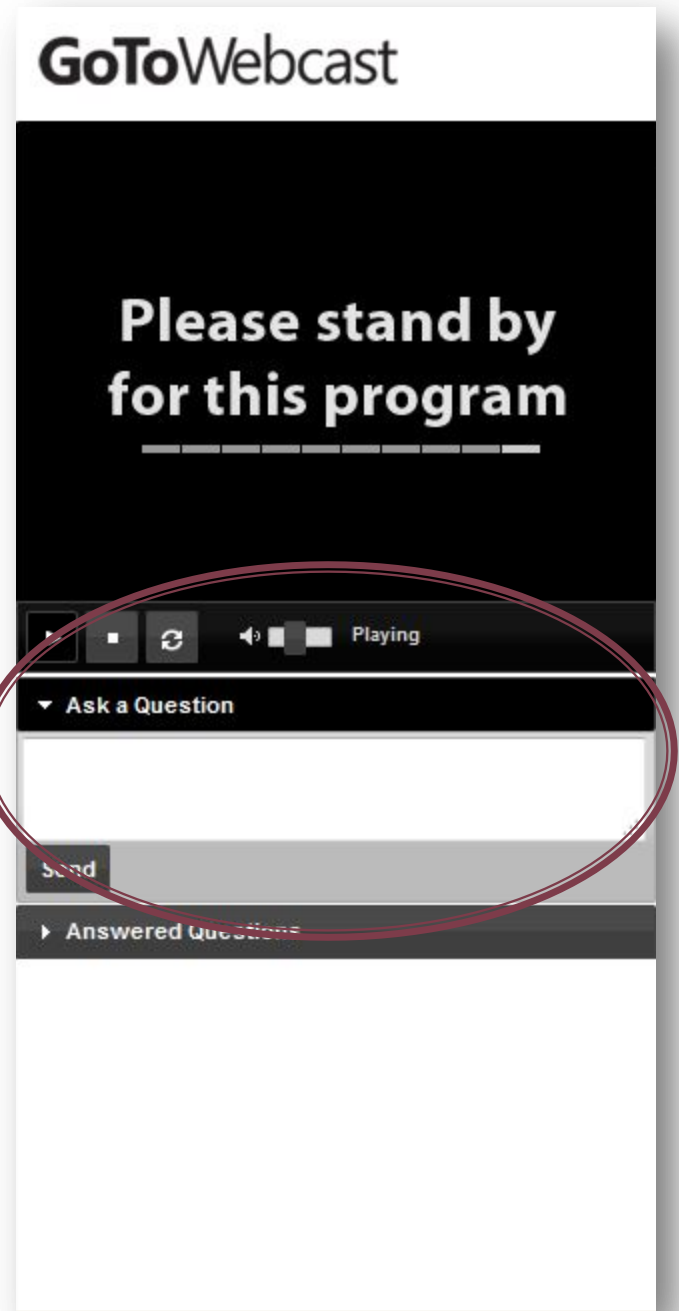
Ask the Expert: ADHD & Military Families: Resources for Service Members



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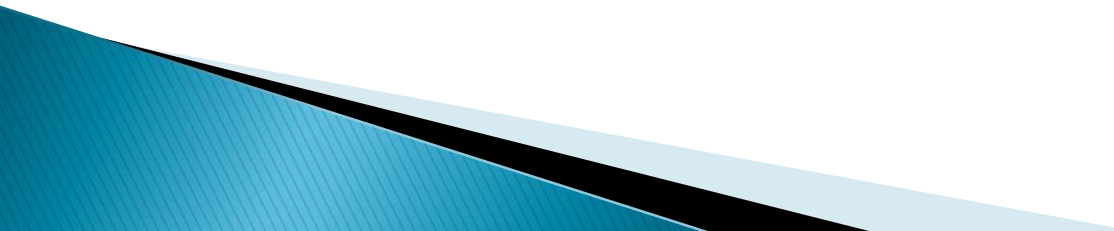
To Ask A Question:



A recording of today's webinar will be
available in two business days at
www.Help4ADHD.org



Please take our survey!

- ▶ Send us your feedback about today's webinar! Following the webinar, a survey will appear on your screen. Please take a moment to complete this survey.
 - ▶ Thank you for helping us plan future webinars that meet the interests of the ADHD community!
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THE MILITARY DIMENSION

A guide to working with Military Families with Special Needs

A Program Of

PAVE



Partnerships for Action. Voices for Empowerment

The Military Dimension ©STOMP 2014

ABOUT STOMP



STOMP is a Program of PAVE



Established in 1985 to assist military families who have children with special education or health needs.



Program staff are spouses of active duty/retired service members and parents of children with special needs.

OFFICE LOCATIONS



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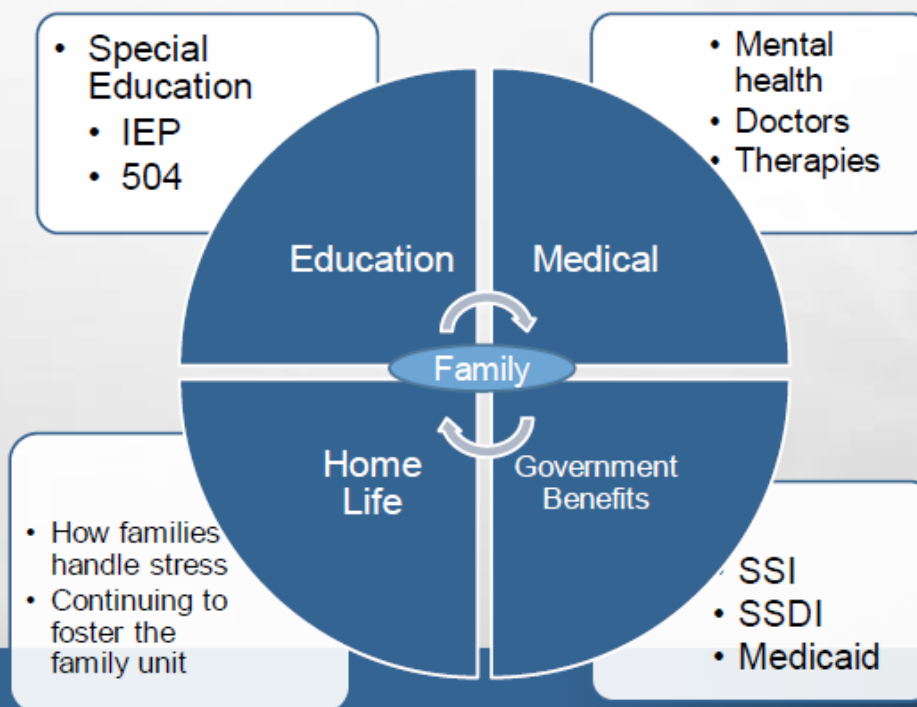
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Headquarters covers **Overseas** with the help from the other **STOMP** offices.

THE COMPLEXITY OF OUR FAMILIES



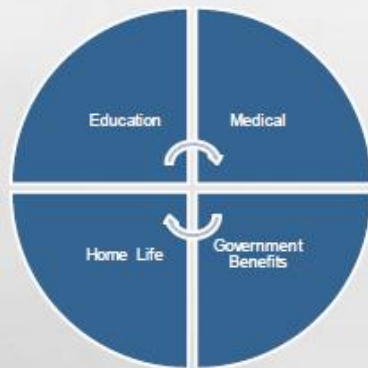
- Special Needs
Families have to navigate numerous paths which all effect their lives drastically



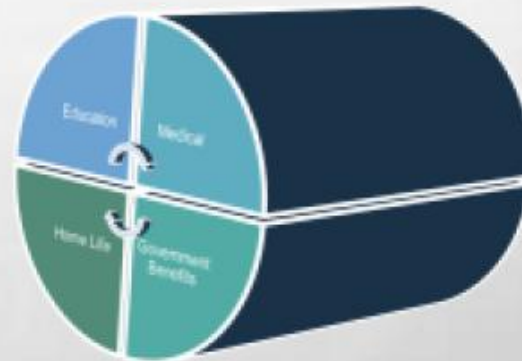
THE NEXT DIMENSION



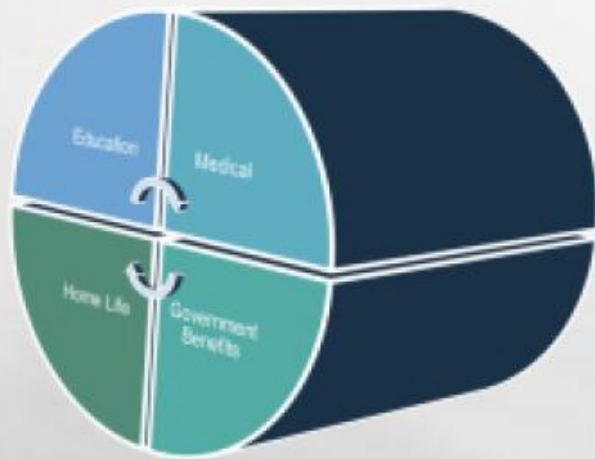
Special Needs Families



The Military Dimension



THE MILITARY DIMENSION



Not only do these families encounter the same struggles as other families with special needs but also experience them in a new dimension, the military dimension.

These challenges often feel like an entirely different dimension of struggles that only those who experience them can understand



THE MILITARY DIMENSION: MEDICAL



- Tricare Options
- Military Medical
- Civilian Referrals
- Overseas care
- Changes when moving
- EFMP

THE MILITARY DIMENSION: GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

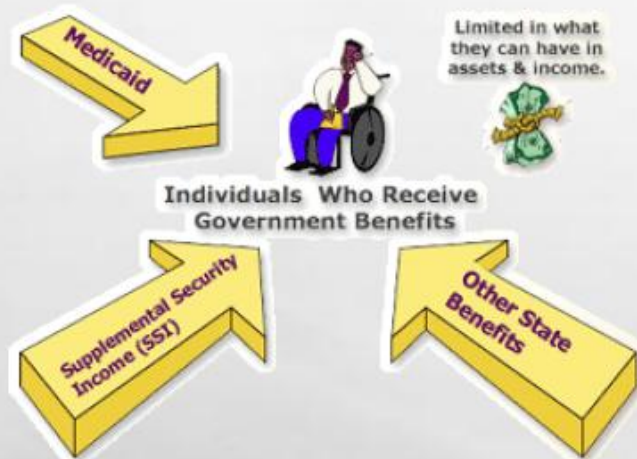


- Most of these families will not qualify for programs such as SSI or Medicaid because of their income.
- It is important to help prepare and inform Military families on the benefits of potentially medically qualifying as well as preparing them for when their children are adults
- SSI overseas ceases after age 18
- Some families may not be in a state long enough to make their way up to waiting lists

THE MILITARY DIMENSION: GOVERNMENT BENEFITS



Medicaid Waivers:



- The HCBS waivers are the most commonly sought after waiver by military families with special needs as they provide services above and beyond benefits typically provided by TRICARE.
- The HCBS waivers have wait lists that can be several years long and therefore problematic for military families moving every two to three years.



“

We move every two years, most services (PT,OT,ABA, etc) all have a minimum of 6 months waiting list. By the time we are accepted and start services, it is time to move and start from scratch again. Whatever progress we make is lost

”

Quote from military family regarding a 2013 Medicaid survey by STOMP



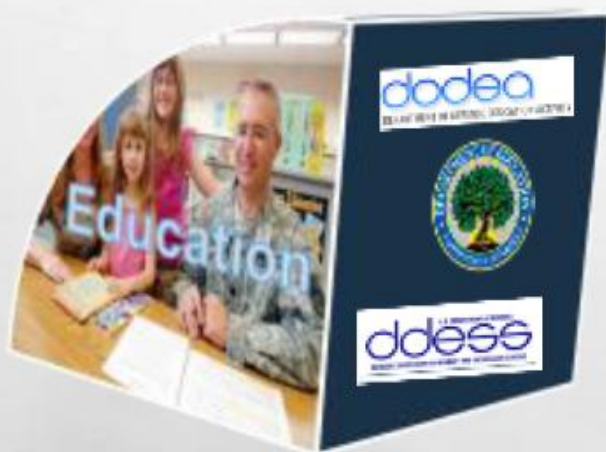
“

Our newly retired family desperately needs echo coverage until my son is off the long waiver wait list. It will be at least 11 years and my child will be an adult before we receive services. We have no respite and may become financially ruined before my son reaches the end of the wait.

”

Quote from military family regarding a 2013 Medicaid survey by STOMP

THE MILITARY DIMENSION: EDUCATION



Military families often relocate and many deal with the transitions from state to state, or even overseas within their Special Education

Students can potential experience 3 different educational systems

1. Public Schools-Funded and monitored by US Dept of Education
2. DoDEA (Department of Defense Education Authority)Funded and monitored by Dept of Defense
3. DDESS (Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools)

THE MILITARY DIMENSION: EDUCATION



- The average military child changes schools 9 times throughout their school career



Three main struggles have been identified by Military Families with Special Needs

1. Establishing services
2. Obtaining comparable services
3. Interactions with military support systems

Based on a 2011 report to the committees on army services of the House of Representatives and Senate

THE MILITARY DIMENSION: EDUCATION



- The need for the Military Interstate Children's Compact
 - Adopted in 46 states
- Military children often experience:
 - Delayed enrollment
 - Inappropriate grade-level placement
 - Exclusion from educational programs and extracurricular activities
 - Delayed graduation.



ARTICLE V - PLACEMENT AND ATTENDANCE: SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES



What's included:

- Receiving state will initially provide the same services identified in the students Individual Education Plan from the sending state
- Receiving state *may* subsequently perform an evaluation to ensure the appropriate placement of the student



MIC3 Military Interstate
Children's Compact Commission



What's not covered:

- A requirement to provide the exact programs as sending state
- Anything above the requirements in the IDEA



THE MILITARY DIMENSION: HOME LIFE

The demands of military life can force large numbers of families to decide whether to uproot spouses and children or to live apart for months or even years.



- Multiple combat tours
- Lengthy training assignments
- Isolating specialties such as submarine duty
- Deployments
- Overseas assignments to bases in Japan, Germany or throughout the world
- Unaccompanied tours
- Changing to the needs of the military
- Unemployment of spouses

THE MILITARY CHILD



THANK
OUR MILITARY
— & —
THEIR FAMILIES

FOR
CARRYING
THE LOAD

Approximately 2 million military children have experienced a parental deployment since 2001.

There are currently 1.2 million military children of active duty members worldwide.

More than 126,000 military families include a member with special needs

Nearly 80 percent of military children attend public schools throughout the United States

The average military family moves 3x more often than their civilian counterpart.



MILITARY SYSTEMS FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Programs, Supports, Policies, and Procedures

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)



EFMP Purpose

1. Identification and enrollment of a family member with special medical or educational needs
2. Assignment coordination to determine the availability of services at the projected duty station
3. Family support to help families identify and access programs and services

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)



EFMP Requirements

- Enrollment is mandatory for active duty who have a spouse, child, or dependent adult with either educational or medical special needs
- Must update enrollment information at least every 3 years



SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICERS (SLO)



The **School Liaison Officers** will:

- Serves as the primary point of contact for school-related matters.
- Represents, informs, and assists Command.
- Assists military families with school issues.
- Coordinates with local school systems.
- Forges partnerships between the military and schools.



"Data reflected 26% of families working with SLOs had children with Special Education Needs and up to 82% of the SLO's time was dedicated to working with these families" 2010 DoD Report

INSTALLATION ASSESSMENT FOR CHILD/YOUTH SERVICES



- “According to OSD officials, each service has established an assessment process to determine how to accommodate children with special needs in DOD’s child care programs. This assessment process is the primary means through which parents can address concerns related to finding appropriate child care for their children with special needs, as well as to help identify support and outreach programs for the family.”
- Multidisciplinary teams, called Inclusion Action Teams (IAT), conduct these assessments by considering the needs of the child, the disability, staffing needs and training requirements, the resources of the program, and the types of child care DOD offers.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICIES –CHILD/YOUTH SERVICES



- DOD officials stated that their policy is to accommodate children with special needs unless those accommodations *fundamentally alter the nature of the program.*



IDENTIFIED WEAKNESSES IN DOD CHILD/YOUTH SERVICES POLICIES

DOD does not have a standard definition of “special needs” for child care programs.

If a child’s presence requires fundamentally altering the program, poses a direct threat to the health and safety of the child or others, or imposes an undue burden, DOD officials stated that services may deny child care.

Data on accommodations provided to children with special needs are not kept centrally

Services use a variety of methods to inform parents about the assessment process.



Based on GAO 2013 Study

KIDS INCLUDED TOGETHER (KIT)



kit
KITonline.org

- The Navy began contracting with KIT for inclusion training in 2008
- Has since expanded to all branches for Child and Youth Programs to learn additional techniques and receiving training to improve inclusion
- Conduct multi day visits, group training, classroom observations, and provide recommendations
- Providers also have access to a confidential telephone support line
- Over 16,500 Military Child/Youth Service Providers have access to KIT's supports

WHAT OUR MILITARY FAMILIES NEED MOST

- Continuity of care
- Continuity of policies
- Community support
- Care Providers who are educated about special needs
- Awareness and respect for unique military culture
- Knowledgeable local links to resources

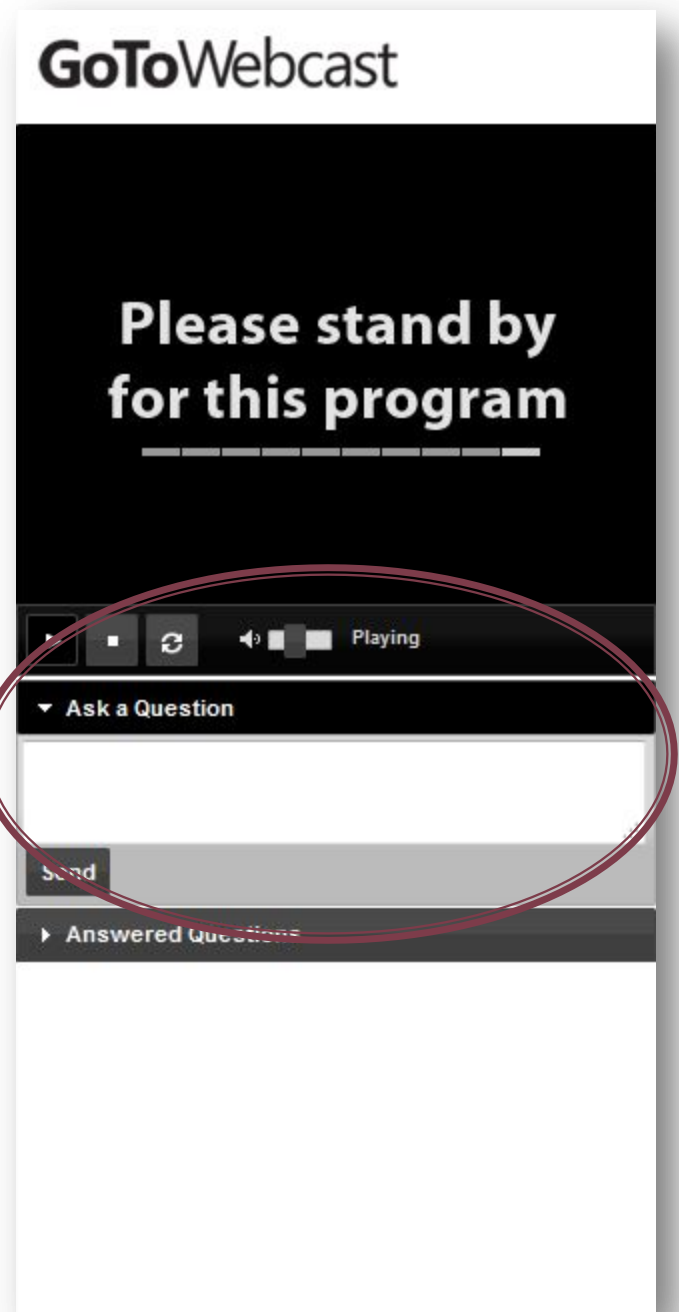




MILITARY FAMILY RESOURCES

- DoDEA Special Education Webpage <http://dodea.edu/curriculum/specialEduc.cfm>
- Kids Included Together (KIT) <http://www.kitonline.org>
- Military HOMEFRONT <http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil>
- Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) <http://www.mic3.net/>
- Military OneSource www.militaryonesource.org/EFMP
 - Education Directory for Children with Special Needs http://apps.militaryonesource.mil/MOS/f?p=EFMP_DIRECTORY:HOME:0
 - Special Care Organizational Record <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/efmp/special-care-org-records>
 - Special Needs Parent Toolkit, Birth-18 <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/efmp/parent-tool-kit>
- Military Special Needs Network <http://militaryspecialneedsnetwork.com>
- STOMP www.stompproject.org

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Ask the Expert:

Lying: Why kids with ADHD lie
and what to do about it

Wednesday, June 4, at 3 p.m.

Register Now at
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This is a presentation of the



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