



ARMY RESILIENCE DIRECTORATE

MEDIA UPDATE
May 19-25, 2023

New! 2023 Summer Strengthening Social Media Toolkit

The 2023 Summer Strengthening Social Media toolkit is designed to help program managers, public affairs officers and other ARD stakeholders lead local social media campaigns to strengthen resilience across the force. Campaign messages focus on preventing suicide and other harmful behaviors by sustaining existing strong connections, building new connections, addressing lethal means safety and increasing awareness of alcohol risk factors. Also highlighted are the 5 Dimensions of Personal Readiness for enhancing resilience.

Download the Summer Strengthening Social Media toolkit and help Soldiers stay resilient this season.

<https://marcomcentral.app.pti.com/Ironmark/ARDMaterials>

New! User Feedback Assessment

To improve ARD's communication and outreach and to better serve the Army community, we are conducting a user-feedback assessment of the communication and outreach program, including the Army Resilience website, the Products on Demand site, the *Community Link* newsletter, social media platforms, the Communications Playbook, EXSUM and Resilience in Focus. The assessment will take 15 to 20 minutes to complete. We would greatly appreciate your participation in this anonymous survey; the deadline is June 15. Click here to begin: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QMLQZ8H>.

Connect With ARD Through Social Media

Stay informed about the Army Resilience Directorate by following and liking us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Build resilience as an Army member while keeping up to date on events, policies and program changes.

Senior Leader Toolkit

This leadership toolkit will improve mission readiness by equipping military leaders with the knowledge, tools and workforce to reduce the risk of harmful behaviors. The toolkit provides resources and information to increase understanding of policy requirements and responsibilities of the Integrated Primary Prevention Workforce. To learn more, visit <https://www.armyresilience.army.mil/ard/leader-resources.html>.

Suicide Prevention Resources for Commanders

Commanders and unit leaders can find suicide prevention resources on the ARD website, including suicide prevention handbooks for leaders at all levels, Leaders Suicide Prevention Safe Messaging Guide, Defense Suicide Prevention Office Family Guide: Supporting Military Families in Crisis, public service announcements/videos, and postvention guides and toolkits for active and reserve units and leaders. To

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access these resources, visit <https://www.armyresilience.army.mil/suicide-prevention/pages/LeaderResources.html>.

ASAP and R2 Awareness Materials Are Available!

Register for a free Products on Demand account here:

<https://marcomcentral.app.pti.com/Ironmark/ARDmaterials>.

Follow the New Users - Click Here to Register link and fill out and submit the form. The materials are free, and some are also available for digital download.

SHARP Resources for Commanders

The ARD website provides commanders with SHARP resources and information, including the SAPR toolkit, education and leader development, training and links to sexual harassment, sexual assault and victim support resources from the DOD, government and nonprofit organizations.

<https://www.armyresilience.army.mil/sharp/pages/Resources-for-Commanders.html>

Upcoming Event

June 21: ARD outreach webinar: Resilience, Strategic Habits & Storytelling, With Gabriel Paoletti, EdD, MAPP

Times: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. ET

Registration is required.

To register for the 11 a.m. webinar, visit:

https://strategyconsultingteam.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_xi_L-pLATfSgxWZYnFVrqq.

To register for the 2 p.m. webinar, visit:

https://strategyconsultingteam.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_aZKC9zWuT9S4gNgFAOgkJA.

The stories quoted in the ARD Media Update are provided for situational awareness. Statistics, data and quotes used by these media sources have not been checked for accuracy or approved/endorsed by the U.S. Army Resilience Directorate. Verify all information with official Army sources before quoting or citing.

ARTICLE: Civilians, Service Members Recognized for Excellence in Sexual Assault Prevention, Victim Advocacy

SYNOPSIS: In an annual award ceremony held at the Pentagon this month, the Defense Department recognized a group of service members and civilians for their outstanding work on sexual assault prevention and victim support.

REPORTER: Joseph Clark, *Department of Defense*

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3402851/civilians-service-members-recognized-for-excellence-in-sexual-assault-preventio/>

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ARTICLE: Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. Kathleen Hicks Visits Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies

SYNOPSIS: Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. Kathleen Hicks visited Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, to gain a deeper understanding of the quality-of-life issues service members in the Arctic face, to receive operational updates and to visit the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies. Hicks met with service members and toured quality-of-life facilities, including childcare and health care centers, to see how local leaders are addressing service members' needs and to assess whether the department should adjust policies to further improve life for Soldiers. These improvements are part of a wider community-based approach to boosting mental health and reducing harmful behaviors like death by suicide.

REPORTER: *Department of Defense*

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3405054/deputy-secretary-of-defense-dr-kathleen-hicks-visits-joint-base-elmendorf-richa/>

RELATED: ARTICLE: Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. Kathleen Hicks Visits Eielson Air Force Base and Fort Wainwright

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3403970/deputy-secretary-of-defense-dr-kathleen-hicks-visits-eielson-air-force-base-and/>

ARTICLE: USA NATO Hosts Events in Three Countries to Combat Sexual Assault, Harassment

SYNOPSIS: Every year in April—Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month—Army units host a series of events to reinforce the roles and responsibilities of every member to prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault.

REPORTER: Troy Darr, *Army.mil*

https://www.army.mil/article/266871/usa_nato_hosts_events_in_three_countries_to_combat_sexual_assault_harassment

ARTICLE: Fired Texas Army Commander Charged With Sex Abuse Faces Court-Martial

SYNOPSIS: The former commander of 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, was charged with sexually assaulting another officer's wife, according to court documents. Col. Jon Meredith, an armor officer, was arraigned at Fort Cavazos, Texas, the base formerly known as Fort Hood, and faces a court-martial. Meredith has been charged with abusive sexual contact and conduct unbecoming an officer.

REPORTER: Steve Beynon, *Military*

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/05/19/fired-texas-army-commander-charged-sex-abuse-faces-court-martial.html>

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ARTICLE: Sexual Assault Response Team Seeks Advocates and Nurses

SYNOPSIS: The city of Lawton, together with Fort Sill, Oklahoma, nonprofits and tribal leaders, is working on a long-term project to help sexual assault victims. The Sexual Assault Response Team aims to create a centralized care center as a safe haven for survivors, where they will receive comprehensive treatment to ensure their healing. Two years in the making, the team is seeking victim advocates and sexual assault nurse examiners.

REPORTER: Mary Grace Pewewardy, *City of Lawton*

<https://www.lawtonok.gov/news/sexual-assault-response-team-seeks-advocates-nurses>

ARTICLE: A National Crisis Ignored: Suicide in Military Community

SYNOPSIS: May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a time when we shine a light on the critical need to understand and treat mental health problems. May is also Military Appreciation Month, but for those in the military community, many mental health problems can lead to death by suicide. The military community is in a severe crisis, and the nation is not doing enough to reverse it.

REPORTER: Jason Criss Howk, *Clearance Jobs*

<https://news.clearancejobs.com/2023/05/21/a-national-crisis-ignored-suicide-in-military-community/>

ARTICLE: New Substance Abuse Center for Active-Duty Military and Veterans Opens in Wasilla

SYNOPSIS: A new substance abuse treatment center primarily for veterans and active military service members opened in Wasilla. The center, Banyan Alaska, has space for 24 people. Clients will stay on campus and have access to staff around the clock, but the treatment is less intensive than that of other residential programs.

REPORTER: Rachel Cassandra, *Alaska Public Media*

<https://www.fox21news.com/news/fort-carson-unveils-updated-facility-to-service-soldiers/>

ARTICLE: Fairfax Military Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Program Monroe

SYNOPSIS: Fairfax Behavioral Health will open the Fairfax Military Program, a mental health and substance abuse treatment program offering specialized treatment designed for active-duty service members.

REPORTER: Marcee Maylin, *Everett Post*

<https://www.everettpost.com/local-news/fairfax-military-mental-health-and-substance-abuse-treatment-program-monroe>

ARTICLE: COMMENTARY: Amid Name Changes at Army Forts, Good Memories Will Endure

SYNOPSIS: The implication was that Fort Bragg produced the toughest, meanest Soldiers in the Army. Possibly, but other posts such as the Home of the Infantry in Columbus, Georgia, had credible claims to

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it, too. Fort Bragg is now Fort Liberty, and Fort Benning is Fort Moore. Nobody I know believes changing fort names will hurt training, readiness or toughness.

REPORTER: Greg Markley, *The Observer*

<https://opelikaobserver.com/amid-name-changes-at-army-forts-good-memories-will-endure/>