

# Spring 2022 Participant Newsletter

## **How Are We Doing?**

After nine years of this study, over 700 participants have completed the 5th survey and more than 500 have completed the 6th survey. From all of the staff here at Operation: SAFETY, we would like to sincerely thank each one of you for sharing your time and experiences with us. We would like to remind you that you and your partner will each receive a \$90 check for completing surveys 5 and 6.

# We would also like to remind you that you are still eligible for participating in these surveys even if:

- You are no longer with your original partner.
- Your military status has changed.
- You missed a survey in the past.

If you have yet to complete your 5th or 6th survey, please give us a call at (716) 829-4731 or email us at <a href="mailto:operationsafety@buffalo.edu">operationsafety@buffalo.edu</a> so that we can collect your invaluable input.

#### **COVID-19 Update:**

We are excited to announce that the University at Buffalo is now allowing research participants on campus! With this new protocol, we would like to welcome you all to come in and complete your survey in-person. For your time and efforts, we will provide you with refreshments and snacks. If you would like to schedule a time to come in, please reach out to our staff using our contact information on the back.

We do understand, however, that some of you may still have concerns or are out of the area. Therefore, we will be continuing to offer the surveys via an online secure platform for your convenience.

#### **Mental Health & Services:**

In this unprecedented time, feeling stressed or overwhelmed are extremely common emotions. For help with managing these feelings, please visit the resource below.

Additional mental health resources can be found at:



https://tinyurl.com/tcjcvj4 or use the QR code

Are you in need of COVID-19 testing kits? Residential households in the U.S. are eligible to receive free at-home tests.

Visit <a href="https://special.usps.com/testkits">https://special.usps.com/testkits</a> to order yours.

## **New Survey Opportunities**

As the second phase of our research draws to a close, we are hoping to obtain additional funding to extend this important work. With the new funding, we aspire to ask questions in regards to current global events which may lead to cumulative stress and adverse outcomes for current soldiers, veterans, and their families. Stay tuned by keeping your contact information up to date with us (see next page).





Soldiers And Families Excelling Through the Years



# Where is This Research Going?

As a result of your ongoing participation, our researchers were able to attend four national conferences this year. At these conferences, various research awards were received based on our work. This research included information collected on partner interactions, military identity, healthcare experiences, and perceptions on cannabis use.

Attending these conferences allows us to share our findings with the greater public health community so that soldiers, veterans, and their families can continue excelling through the years!

The Staff at Operation: SAFETY would like to thank you once again for your support and to remind you of the following:

For us to continue our meaningful work, it is important that you help us in keeping your contact information up to date. This can be done by reaching out to us if your address, primary phone number, or email has changed.

**The Operation: SAFETY Team** 

Phone: (716) 829-4731

Email: OperationSafety@buffalo.edu sphhp.buffalo.edu/operation-safety

