



AIR FORCE WOUNDED WARRIOR (AFW2) PROGRAM

KEY TALKING POINTS

Air Force Priority: Develop and Care for Airmen and Their Families

The Air Force takes care of its seriously wounded, ill, and injured Airmen. We fully support the Office of the Secretary of Defense programs to retain highly skilled men and women on active duty. If this is not feasible, the Air Force will ensure Airmen receive enhanced assistance through the AFW2 program.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

The men and women who have donned our nation's uniforms are the bravest, toughest, strongest, and most virtuous warriors ever to walk on Earth. While we can never repay our warriors for their boundless service and sacrifice, we must uphold with supreme vigilance our sacred obligation to "care for those who have borne the battle." President Donald J. Trump, November 11, 2019

Wounded Warrior Program Defined: The Air Force Wounded Warrior (AFW2) Program coordinates the care and transition support of seriously wounded, ill and injured Airmen and provides resources and support to their families. Depending on the member's goals, the transition can be back to active duty or, in the event of an unfitting condition, to veteran status. The end state is an Airmen that that is self-sufficient and resilient.

Key Messages:**The Air Force Wounded Warrior Program focuses on specific family and caregiver needs**

- Wounded warriors, their families, and caregivers are supported throughout the recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration processes.

Retaining Airmen who want to stay on active duty after becoming wounded, ill or injured

- Wounded Warriors may apply for retention using the Limited Assignment Status Program if the member desires to remain in the Air Force, approval is based on eligibility and if there is a need for his/her skills, experience, grade, or specialty.

AFW2 Program personnel ensure extraordinary care, personalized service, and assistance

- Recovery Care Coordinators and Non-medical care managers ensure extraordinary care, personalized service and assistance to Airmen for as long as needed after their transition back to work in the Air Force or transition to veteran status.
- AFW2 works with each Airman, their families and caregiver to connect them with programs and resources to meet their specific needs and ensure they receive the entitlements and benefits that are available based on their individual circumstances.
- The AFW2 Empowerment In Transition Program strives to assist recovering service members in improving their career goals and link them to career resources and opportunities.

Key Engagements (Dates):

- Virtual CARE Week 16-20 Nov 20
- Air Force Trials 1-13 Mar 21 (Nellis AFB)
- Invictus Games 29 May – 5 June 21 (Hague, Netherlands)
- Warrior Games 9-14 Sept 21 (Hosted by Disney at the ESPN Center)

How to Support AFW2:**Integrate program awareness into the lifecycle of an Airman**

- Top down push to include AFW2 education in all PME
- Emphasize awareness to front line supervisors, Flight Chiefs and CCs
- Promote awareness and virtual opportunities; <https://dvidshub.net/r/2dpbva>

AFW2 by the Numbers:

- 3264 - Active population (2184 AD / 1080 TDRL)
- 2700 Regular (83%), 362 Guard (11%), 202 Reserve (6%)
- Support 7939 veterans as-needed
- AFW2 Case Category - 867 Illnesses, 1,527 Psychological wounds (1023 PTSD), 870 Physical wounds (includes TBI)

Air Force Commitment

- The AFW2 program works hand-in-hand with the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and Airman & Family Readiness Centers to ensure Total Force Airmen receive personalized support and care from the point of injury or illness, through separation or retirement.
- Provide professional services such as transition assistance, employment assistance, moving assistance, financial counseling, information and referral, and emergency financial assistance.

Quick Facts

- AFW2 provides support to all wounded and seriously ill and injured Airmen:
 - Enrollment growth rate averages 100+ new cases each month with 34 new PTSD cases per month
 - Over 500 Airmen participated in Adaptive Sports rehabilitation programs in FY19
 - The Recovering Airman Mentorship Program (RAMP) trains Airmen to mentor those Airmen in similar situations
 - The Ambassador and Outreach Program helps Airmen hone their stories to amplify the message of the program to Air Force audiences globally
 - Warrior CARE Events are offered to aide and support every Airman's recovery journey

- For more information on AFW2, go to <http://www.woundedwarrior.af.mil/>
- Prepared by AFPC/DPFW
- Current as of 16 September 2020