

## Focus Group Work Plan for 2021

Name of Focus Group: **Military Children and Families**

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Chair/Co-chairs: **Christina Marini and Kayla Reed Fitzke with Christine McCall as Communication Specialist**

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Chair/Co-chairs email: [cmarini@adelphi.edu](mailto:cmarini@adelphi.edu); [kayla-fitzke@uiowa.edu](mailto:kayla-fitzke@uiowa.edu); [cemccall@purdue.edu](mailto:cemccall@purdue.edu)

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1. Do you wish to have a time allocated for your focus group during at the next NCFR Annual Conference?

- Yes     No

2. If yes, please list or attach tentative agenda.

The meeting will tentatively start with introductions followed by a presentation of our focus group awards. We will then host a speaker (TBD) to cover a professional development topic of interest to our membership.

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3. Please list 2021 focus group goals/projects/aspirations.

We would like to start collaborating with other focus groups in order to identify crosscutting themes and fruitful directions for future research (e.g., collaborating with issues in aging to think about aging veterans in the context of their families, or intergenerational military ties within families).

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4. Please identify any opportunities, suggestions, or concerns regarding the role of this focus group in furthering NCFR's inclusion and diversity initiatives.

Our group continues to promote diversity and inclusion by considering all proposals for our awards (thereby eliminating a self-nomination process).

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5. Please list any areas where you would like assistance from NCFR staff.

We are interested in adding a third award to our focus group for symposia. We feel that symposia do not fit well within our existing award system and want to recognize the amount of work that goes into chairing a high-quality symposium. Because there are only 1-2 within each focus group each year, we think this would have to be offered every other year, unless it was not limited to only our focus group. We are interested in speaking with NCFR staff about this idea to brainstorm potential options.

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6. Are there any other concerns or questions that have come from the 2020 focus group annual meeting?

Members were unusually fatigued during the meeting. We did our best to have an engaging conversation, but it was challenging to do in the virtual format. Having NCFR staff available to help set up the meeting was helpful, however. We wanted to be sure to express our gratitude for all of your support in setting up and running the virtual meeting.

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Attach your **2020 annual meeting minutes** to this form and return by **December 1, 2020** to the membership manager, Maddie Hansen – [maddiehansen@ncfr.org](mailto:maddiehansen@ncfr.org).