MISSOURI COLLEGE STUDENT VETERAN ASSESSMENT FACT SHEET

Partners in Prevention is Missouri’s higher education substance abuse consortium dedicated to creating healthy and safe college campuses. The Partners in Prevention coalition (PIP) is comprised of 21 public and private college and university campuses across the state. First implemented in 2012, the Missouri College Student Veteran Assessment (MCSVA) was designed to better understand the role of health and wellness of student veterans in the campus community. The survey also provides information regarding perceptions of campus and community resources allocated for veterans, as well as analyzing the ease of transition from military service to academic and student life. The MCSVA is currently administered online every fall semester to student veterans at participating coalition campuses across the state. PIP analyzes and reports gathered data back to participating campuses for use in both veteran-specific programming and support services.

THE MCSVA EXAMINES:

**Mental Health**
What are the major sources of student veterans stress? What strategies have they adopted to cope with stress?

- The MCSVA examines the mental health and well-being of student veterans from a wide range of topics including Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, chronic sleep disorders, and major depression. Additionally, the MCSVA seeks to understand the help-seeking behaviors of those coping with these issues and where they have sought assistance, if anywhere.

**Substance Use and Abuse**
With what frequency has substance use occurred for student veterans since returning home from service?

- The survey compiles knowledge of substance use and abuse patterns of student veterans of both alcohol and illicit substances. Asked in the same manner as questions on the Missouri College Health Behavior Survey, these questions provide comparisons between student veterans and traditional college students.

**Sense of Belonging**
How connected do student veterans feel on campus? Do they feel welcomed by other students or faculty members?

- Understanding the relationship between student veterans and their campus community is an integral part of the MCSVA and the problems facing student veterans. Questions ask about both their ease of transition to academic life, their support structure for personal concerns on campus, and whether or not they feel welcomed by both faculty and students.

**Perceptions of Veteran Services/Resources**
Are you aware of veteran-specific services, resources, or organizations on your campus? What resources have they sought and been able to access?

- The MCSVA gauges the perceptions and knowledge student veterans have regarding the services and resources in both their community and campus. This encapsulates both traditional student services, student-veteran specific services and as well as those provided by Veterans Affairs.

**Demographics**
The MCSVA accumulates a large amount of data to best identify participant demographics and allow for better designed programs and resources for student veterans. Among others, these demographics include branch of the military, past deployment status (stateside and abroad), gender, age and years of service.

CONTACT US

To learn more about this survey, Partners in Prevention, or any of the other resources that may be available, please contact Evan Ramsey at 573-884-8253 or G202 MU Student Center, Columbia, Missouri, 65211.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT HTTP://PIP.MISSOURI.EDU