

1 February 2012

Millennium Cohort Family Study
DoD Center for Deployment Health Research
San Diego, CA 92106

Dear Family Study Participant,

As a military spouse for more than 35 years, it is extremely important to me to advocate for military families. As part of my commitment to help improve the quality of life of military families, I encourage you to participate in the Millennium Cohort Family Study.

There are currently millions of Active Duty, Reserve and National Guard Service members serving our Nation. Many of them leave behind a family when they deploy – a family that also serves and sacrifices for our country.

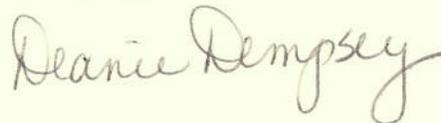
One of the best ways to provide military leaders with a broad picture of how military families are coping is to follow them over time as they experience the unique challenges associated with military life (e.g., relocation, separation and deployment, social isolation).

The Millennium Cohort Family Study has been authorized by the Department of Defense to contact spouses of Service members from all branches of the military, including Reserve and National Guard, to ask for their participation in a study designed to capture their personal experiences about everything from physical health and well-being to deployment return/reunion and family communication.

By completing your survey, you are contributing to the development of interventions designed to enhance the well-being of Service members and their families, and to minimize the negative consequences of service.

I encourage you to give some of your time to represent the many spouses of Service members defending this great Nation. I recognize the strength and resiliency it takes to be a military spouse, and I want to thank you for your service to our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deanie Dempsey".

Deanie Dempsey
Wife of the Chairman of the Joint
Chiefs of Staff, General Martin E.
Dempsey