

Recovering Warriors Research

Client: U.S. Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services

Project Overview

Under this contract, Insight provided research support to the Recovering Warrior Task Force (RWTF), ultimately to prepare its final annual report. Insight assessed the effectiveness of the policies and programs developed and implemented by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and each of the military departments to assist and support the management and transition of recovering wounded, ill, and injured (WII) members of the Armed Forces. Insight developed and implemented a comprehensive research plan to structure the activities of RWTF, which is charged with assessing the effectiveness of programs and policies across the U.S.



Department of Defense (DoD) that support the care of recovering Service members.

RWTF examined more than a dozen specific topics each year; in 2014, its study topics included:

- Case management
- Traumatic brain injury
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Support for family caregivers
- Vocational services
- Interagency programs (i.e., between DoD and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA))
- Disability evaluation systems
- Legal support



In support of RWTF, Insight employed a variety of quantitative and qualitative data collection methods. Data sources included briefings by headquarters- and installation-level proponents, key informant interviews, installation-level focus groups and mini-surveys with WII Service members and family caregivers, and extant datasets. Insight staff collected, cataloged, and analyzed extensive amounts of primary and secondary data for RWTF, then utilized the breadth data to compile and write evidence in support of RWTF's recommendations.

The final report culminated 4 years of RWTF efforts and included a description of best practices and recommendations for ways in which DoD and the military departments could address matters relating to the care, management, and transition of WII members of the Armed Forces more effectively.

Core Activities

Literature Reviews and Environmental Scans; Survey Design and Implementation; Survey Research; Data Collection; Qualitative Research; Data Analysis and Simulations; Report Development and Presentation; Developing/Synthesizing Recommendations

Products

The final report is entitled "Department of Defense Recovering Warrior Task Force: 2013–2014 Annual Report" (September 2014) and is available at

<http://rwtf.defense.gov/Portals/22/Documents/Reports/fy2014report.pdf>.