

NEWS

From the Office of

Brad Mitzelfelt

Supervisor, First District
San Bernardino County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 13, 2009



For information, contact
David Zook (909) 387-4830
www.sbcounty.gov/mitzelfelt

Supervisors Approve Support Services for Military and Families

SAN BERNARDINO – The Board of Supervisors on May 12 approved \$900,000 in funding to support mental health services for military families in San Bernardino County. The County contracted with Morongo Basin Mental Health Services and Victor Community Support Services to provide the Military Services and Family Support Project.

“Members of our military and their families make tremendous sacrifices on behalf of our country,” said Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who represents the High Desert and served as a U.S. Marine during Operation Desert Storm. “Not only are members of our military and their spouses impacted, but children in military families can face adjustment difficulties when living with an absent parent who is serving during a time of war.”

The Military Services and Family Support Project is a new prevention and early intervention program for military families in San Bernardino County and includes in-home screening and assessment for active duty, reserve, National Guard and recently retired military families. The program provides case management and referrals for military families in need. Each provider is expected to serve a minimum of 50 clients and their families per year.

In addition to family members who can suffer anxiety, men and women returning from active duty can carry the emotional scars of prolonged battle fatigue and possibly Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The County, through its Behavioral Health and Veteran’s Affairs offices, is currently working to determine which families are most in need of these services.

Military families interested in receiving assistance may call Michelle Dusick at (909) 873-4432.