

July 2023

FACILITATOR NOTES

1. The objective of AFMC Connect is to provide an opportunity for meaningful conversations to occur within our units – resulting in stronger connections and increased unit cohesion. Social ties that accompany a sense of belonging, as well as increased connectedness, are identified as protective factors associated with preventing suicide.
2. Supervisors have the flexibility in facilitating these discussions in already existing forums (i.e. staff meeting, roll call, guard mount, shift change, PT, etc.).
3. It is important to introduce the monthly discussion in your own words in a way that meets the needs of your personnel.
4. **Virtual Tip:** Utilize virtual platforms for communication, file sharing, data collection, project management, etc. Schedule a unit training so everyone can learn how to access and utilize these platforms effectively.
5. Each month a theme and corresponding tool have been established to assist supervisors in the delivery of relevant content. Those monthly themes feed into a broader quarterly message – this quarter’s message is “Resilience”.
 - July — Warfighter Culture
 - Aug — Confidence
 - Sept — Resilience
6. For additional information on facilitating discussions and local points of contact, you can find the full implementation guidance here:
<https://www.afmc.af.mil/connect>

FRAMING THE CONVERSATION

Warfighter culture is one of the core characteristics of an organization and its people. Strengthening the warfighter culture helps all AFMC personnel understand their role, value, and connection to force readiness to support the mission and deter our adversaries. AFMC’s unique missions for developing, testing, and sustaining the Air Force’s advanced technologies and equipment are vital to ensure maximum readiness and lethality for the total force. Increasing the understanding of warfighter culture strengthens our mental adaptability by focusing on building trust, confidence, unit cohesion, and productivity. Our contributions—individually and organizationally—to the Air Force warfighter culture are key to ensuring we continue to develop a high-performing, resilient, and adaptable force to support the defense of the United States today and tomorrow.

Here’s a list of things you and your team can do to amplify your warfighting culture:

- Host a movie night/book club that focuses on warfighting culture
- Visit a historical site that focuses on warfighting culture
- Bring in a guest speaker on this topic during your next unit event
- Have an open forum discussion on emerging threats and technologies

Suggested Discussion Points:

1. How can leaders within AFMC foster a culture that encourages innovation, risk-taking, and continuous improvement in warfighting capabilities?
2. How can a warfighting culture within AFMC help ensure the Air Force increases its technological edge over potential adversaries?
3. What are the potential risks of not prioritizing a warfighting culture?

Take Action:

- Explore past AFMC development successes and how they changed the battlespace.
- Schedule an emerging threat presentation/discussion with local intel.
- Partner with MAJCOM leaders for a warfighting culture talk.
- Build briefings/posters for the workplace, emphasizing the importance of your organizations connection to the warfighting culture.

We welcome your feedback on how we can make these products more effective. Please utilize the following link or QR Code:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CY23CONNECT>.

