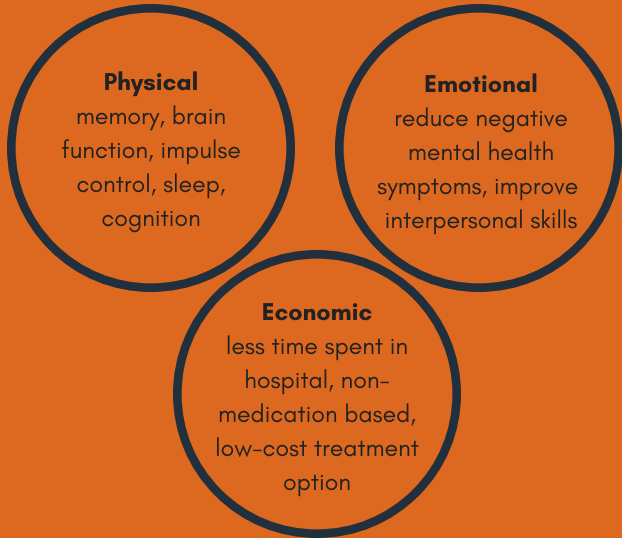


# ART THERAPY

Improves physical, emotional, cognitive, and communication skills through art-based interventions across the lifespan



More than 500,000 armed services members are living with traumatic brain injury (TBI) or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

TBI and PTSD are known to contribute to depression, and to the estimated 20 suicides committed by veterans each day.



## CREATIVE FORCES: NEA MILITARY HEALING ARTS NETWORK

### Program's Purpose

"To help military personnel and veterans return to their homes, their missions and their families whole, mentally fit and emotionally ready for whatever comes next."

[arts.gov/partnerships/creative-forces](https://arts.gov/partnerships/creative-forces)

In 2011, a military healing arts partnership was established by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) to support creative arts therapies for service members with TBI and associated psychological health concerns at two military medical facilities in the Washington, DC, area.

In 2016 and 2017, Congress appropriated a nearly \$2 million budget increase each year to the NEA to expand this military healing arts program.

In 2016, the Creative Forces program was able to expand to ten additional sites nationwide and increased access to therapeutic arts activities in local communities for military members, veterans, and their families.

A National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military has been created to encourage collaboration among federal agency, military, state agency, nonprofit, and private sector partners to implement arts programming to support U.S. Veterans, service members, their families and caregivers.

### Three Components

11 medical treatment facilities throughout the country



**Clinical**

1 Telehealth program for military patients in rural and remote areas

Creative-arts based therapeutic services provided by credentialed professionals



**Community**

Community-based recreational creative arts opportunities for military and veteran families

Transition from clinical care to community level arts programming



**Capacity**

Conducting research on the biological, psycho-social, behavioral, and economic impacts of arts-based interventions

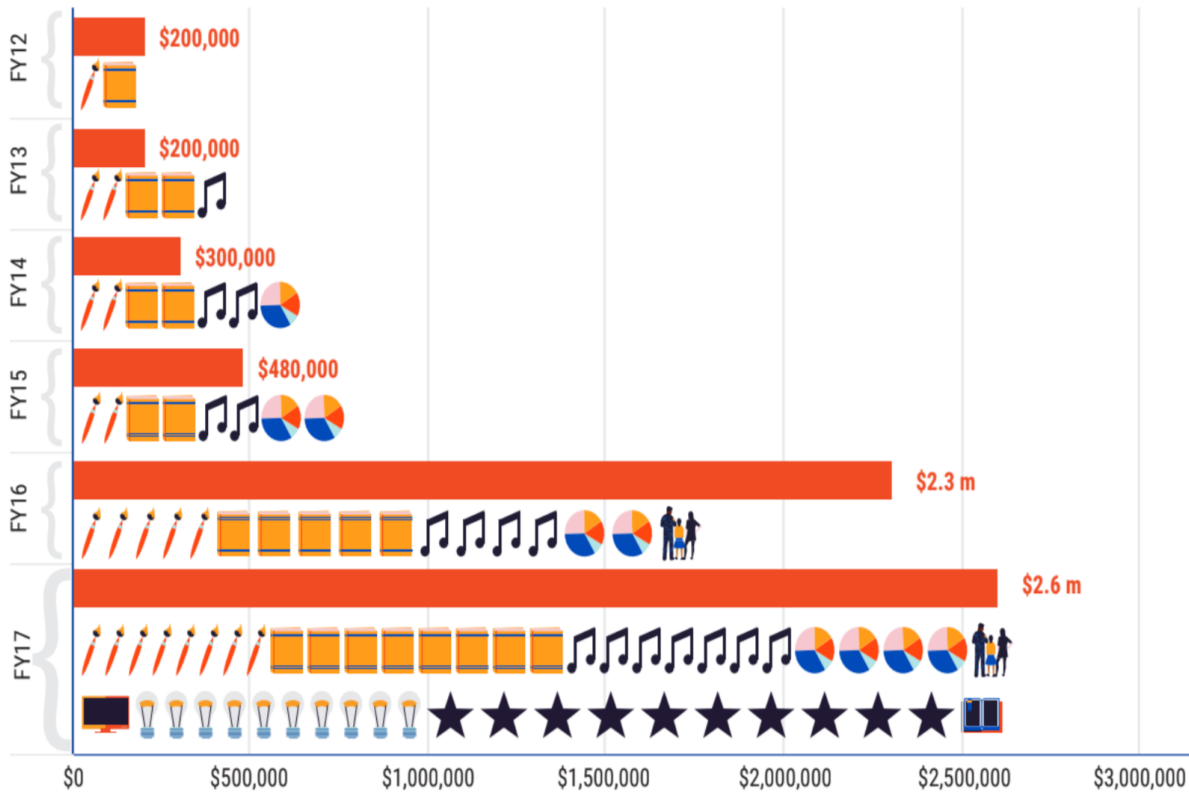
Developing best practice resources

**CREATIVE FORCES**  
★  
NEA MILITARY HEALING ARTS NETWORK

# CREATIVE FORCES

## NEA MILITARY HEALING ARTS NETWORK

### GROWTH OF PROGRAM



NUMBER OF CLINICAL SITES:	
FY12: 1	FY15: 2
FY13: 1	FY16: 5
FY14: 2	FY17: 11

## PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

- Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Anchorage AK
- Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, CA
- Fort Carson, CO
- James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, Tampa, FL
- Fort Campbell, KY
- National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) at Walter Reed, Bethesda, MD
- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, NC
- Fort Hood, TX
- Fort Belvoir, VA
- Joint Expeditionary Base, Little Creek, VA
- Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, WA