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Subject: FW: Topics in the News

From: SMVF TA Center [mailto:SMVFTACenter@prainc.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 11:59 PM

To: Connie Mancari

Subject: Topics in the News

SAMHSA's Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance Center

Topics in the News

SMVF TA Center Webinar: Military Culture Training for Strengthening Access to SMVF Behavioral Health Services

September 22, 2015; 2:00-3:30 p.m. EDT

This webinar will include information about the VA's newly released "Understanding Military Culture" Community Provider Toolkit, the impact of the VA's Choice Program on community providers, and other military culture training resources. State examples from SAMHSA's Policy Academy teams will also be featured to highlight successful implementation of military culture training and collaboration with the VA to increase access to services.

[Learn more and register...](#)

[WEBINARS] Peer Support and Innovative Prison Reentry Programs

Part 1: August 20, 2015; 3:00-4:30 p.m. EDT

Part 2: September 11, 2015; 3:00-4:30 p.m. EDT

SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation and the Association of State Correctional Administrators are pleased to announce a two-part webinar series focusing on the successful and innovative use of peers and peer support in state correctional facilities. Attendees will learn about the innovative use of peers and successful collaborations between correctional facilities and peer operated programs in providing a wide array of reentry services. The first webinar will highlight three exemplary programs and the second will focus on how to develop, implement, fund, sustain, and expand these programs in state correctional facilities.

[Learn more and register...](#)

[WEBINAR] The Primary Care Provider's Role in Preventing Suicide

August 24, 2015; 1:30 p.m. EDT

Individuals thinking about suicide can fall through the cracks of fragmented systems. Primary care physicians can play an important role in assessing and managing suicide risk given that nearly half those who die by suicide are in contact with a primary care physician within one month of death.

[Learn more and register...](#)

[WEBINAR] SBIRT: A Look at the Evidence

August 26, 2015; 1:00-2:30 p.m. EDT

Alcohol and drug Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) is recommended by numerous authorities, yet seldom delivered in an evidence-based manner in most primary care settings. This presentation will review research on the effectiveness of various components of SBIRT and strategies for dissemination. Gaps in such research will be identified and future directions for research and implementation will be proposed.

[Learn more and register...](#)

[WEBINAR] The Impact of Sexual Assault and Treatment Options

August 27, 2015; 1:00-2:30 p.m. EDT

According to a Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau fiscal year 2012 report, United States, state, and local child protective services received an estimated 3.4 million referrals of children being abused or neglected. Of these child victims, 9 percent were victims of sexual abuse. The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2010 Summary Report identified that one in two women (44.6 percent) and one in five men (22.2 percent) experienced

sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime.

[Learn more and register...](#)

Healing Sgt. Powell

It was just another day in Mosul,” the soldier began, his voice shaking. Sgt. 1st Class Marshall Powell took a deep breath. He couldn’t look at the other three servicemen seated around him in therapy.

[Read more...](#)

Deployment Training Helps Build Resilience at Home

Mental resilience, a new buzzword in psychological health, has long been a goal of military training, although it hasn’t always been defined that way. Some of the goals of military training — unit cohesion, physical fitness, mental stability — could help service members after deployment too.

[Read more...](#)

VA Announces New Rules Regarding Service Animals in VA Facilities

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it has revised its regulation regarding the presence of animals on VA property. The updated regulation will ensure VA practices remain consistent with applicable federal law. It will also assist individuals entering VA facilities in developing a clear and consistent understanding of the criteria governing facility access for service animals.

[Read more...](#)

Battle Buddy: Canine Friend Helps Veteran Cope with PTSD

Kenny Bass liked his job. As a 22-year-old Marine participating in the initial invasion of Iraq, life couldn’t have been more exciting. “I was part of the combined anti-armor platoon,” he explained. “It was the ‘CAAT platoon.’ We were doing a lot of counter-ambush patrols, the insurgents were attacking Red Cross personnel, civilian contractors and other non-combatants. So we were tasked with going out and trying to solicit an attack. We were Infantry Marines, and young, so most of us were pretty excited about doing that kind of work. We had heavy-duty machine guns and anti-tank missiles.”

[Read more...](#)

VA Pilot Program Provides Internships for UHV Students

A trio of University of Houston-Victoria graduate students will take part in a pilot program for mental health counseling. They were recently awarded paid internships to receive hands-on mental health counseling training at the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Houston.

[Read more...](#)

Navajo Code Talkers: Remembering the Men Behind the Code

Early in World War II, the U.S. had sustained significant damage to the homeland and the troops from the devastating bombing of Pearl Harbor, to attacks in the Philippines and Guam. It became clear that the nation’s battle plans were being deciphered almost as quickly as they were being put together.

[Read more...](#)

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