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**Date:** 9/17/2015 11:59:20 AM

**Subject:** FW: Topics in the News

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 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 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA)'s new 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...](#)

#### **New App to Help Texas Veterans Get Services**

Officials announced the launch of an app that can be used by veterans to get information on services. The app — which can be downloaded on smartphone and tablets — was described a tool that will help veterans get a variety of services faster.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Connecticut Has Ended Chronic Veteran Homelessness**

The federal government has declared Connecticut the first state in the country to end chronic homelessness among veterans, officials announced. The declaration means that all known veterans experiencing chronic homelessness in the state either have housing or are on an immediate path to permanent housing, officials said. Chronic homelessness is defined as being homeless for at least one year or being homeless at least four times in the past three years.

[Read more...](#)

#### **VA-Led 25 Cities Effort Provides Stable Housing to Homeless Veterans**

In March 2014, VA partnered with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to launch the 25 Cities Effort, a program designed to intensify and integrate efforts and resources to end veteran homelessness in cities identified with high homeless veteran populations.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Breaking the Cycle of Veteran Incarceration and Homelessness: Emerging Community Practices**

Like other single individuals experiencing homelessness, there is a high prevalence of criminal justice system involvement among veterans experiencing homelessness. About one-half of all veterans experiencing homelessness who have participated in VA homeless assistance programs are involved in the justice system.

[Read the brief...](#)

#### **Being Your Own Health Care Advocate: Talking About Your Symptoms**

Part of many physician visits include a discussion about symptoms you are experiencing; quite likely the reason for at least one of those visits. This discussion is in fact very important to the diagnostic process, and is when your physician or other healthcare provider actually learns a good bit about you.

[Read more...](#)

### **In Memory Program Honors Vietnam Veterans for Their Sacrifice**

More than 40 years after the war's end, Vietnam veterans and their families are still feeling the effects of their service. There are 58,307 names that meet the Department of Defense's criteria to be listed on The Wall. However, there are many more who returned home, but whose lives were cut short by their service in Vietnam. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund believes that all those who served should be honored and recognized.

[Read more...](#)

### **Dogs Ease PTSD, TBI in Service Members**

One of the best tools in combating the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury may not be in a form of a medicine we take, but in the company we keep.

[Read more...](#)

### **Make the Connection**

Family members and friends can share stories of recovery with veterans. Family members and friends play a critical role in a veteran's life, especially during difficult times. Make the Connection has resources and information for family and friends who want to help veterans in their lives.

[Read more...](#)

### **Sleep Problems Following Trauma, PTSD Monthly Update - August 2015**

[Read the full newsletter...](#)

#### **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

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[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov) \* 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877- 726-4727)

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