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**Date:** 2/14/2015 11:06:55 AM

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

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

**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 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**

#### **Opportunity for Mental Health Clinicians: Project (On-line User Training for Intervention in Trauma) OUTFIT**

Mental health clinicians have an opportunity to take part in Project OUTFIT, a PTSD training study based at the National Center for PTSD (U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs). This research project is investigating the impact of different delivery methods of a state-of-the-art skills training curriculum for addressing trauma. Community-based mental health providers who have treated at least one veteran with stress-related issues in the past year are invited to enroll in the study. Participants receive free training in one of three formats, and will take part in an online survey and mock phone session at three time points (baseline, 3-month, and 6-month). Five continuing education credits will be issued for completion of the training (see letter for specific accreditations).

[Learn more...](#)

#### **Public Comment Requested on Criteria for Community Clinics**

SAMHSA is seeking public comment on the draft criteria for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics. These clinics will focus on improving outcomes by increasing access to community-based behavioral healthcare, expanding the availability and array of services, and improving the quality of care delivered to people with mental and/or substance use disorders.

[Learn more...](#)

#### **WEBINAR: Veterans Choice Program**

March 3, 2015; 3:00-4:00 p.m. ET

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) will be hosting a Veterans Choice Program Webinar consisting of a presentation of the new program, which expands access to healthcare to thousands of veterans by allowing them to receive care from non-VA health care providers.

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

#### **Veterans Courts Soaring in Demand as Teams of Volunteers Seek to Help Military Defendants**

Michelle Thomason has seen 150 veterans approach her courtroom within the past year, but none with a more powerful story than the drug addict who faced a life or death situation. The veteran, a soldier once stationed in Afghanistan, was shopping narcotics, buying pills on the black market, and creating toxic drink cocktails, Thomason said.

[Read more...](#)

#### **“Was it Like the Old War Movies?” Veterans Share Their Stories of WWII**

It was the middle of the workday last fall when a colleague brought a gentleman to my office and introduced him to me as the past president of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. Retired U.S. Army Colonel Douglas Dillard sat down across from me and we spent some time chatting.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Annual Event Honors Military's African-American Leaders**

Prominent African-Americans from all walks of life have served as a bridge between the past and today, well as a bridge to the future, Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James said.

[Read more...](#)

#### **A Day of Caring and Sharing with America's Veteran**

When Lee Greenwood sings those stirring lyrics this month at a VA Medical Center in the hills of South

Dakota, there will be hugs and salutes and tears. Country star Greenwood will join thousands of Americans the week of Valentine's Day saluting Veteran patients at VA facilities across America.

[Read more...](#)

### **Redesigned DISA Website Offers Improved Experience for Mission Partners**

The Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) launched a redesigned website, <http://www.DISA.mil> an effort to improve Web-based communications with mission partners. The site introduces an updated look and feel, enhances delivery of service-focused content, and optimizes presentation via mobile devices.

DISA.mil is the agency's virtual front door. With more than 35,000 visitors each week, the site serves as a key entry point for mission and industry partners, job seekers, the media, and the general public. While the site serves a number of different stakeholders, the redesign focused on delivering service-focused content to the agency's mission partners.

[View the new website...](#)

### **Clay Hunt Act Complements VA's Ongoing Commitment to Mental Health**

The Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans (SAV) Act complements VA's on-going, multifaceted efforts to improve mental health care for our nation's Veterans, and I'm pleased that both houses of Congress came together to pass the SAV Act. I'm proud to stand with President Obama as he signs this important legislation.

[Read more...](#)

### **Los Angeles Leaders Vow to End Homelessness among Veterans this Year**

Declaring they had turned a corner in the fight against homelessness, city leaders have vowed that by the end of the year there would be no more veterans living on the streets of Los Angeles.

[Read more...](#)

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

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

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