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Subject: FW: Topics in the News

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

Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 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

The Transition to Civilian Life: Testing Program Changes to Boost Veteran Employment

With the size of the United States military in steady decline since 2010, hundreds of thousands of veterans are making the transition into the civilian labor market. But despite having experience and skills that may be very attractive to private employers new veterans sometimes struggle to find jobs and do not seek help from the public workforce system.

[Read more...](#)

Winnefeld: Hiring Military Veterans a 'Win-Win' For Businesses

Hiring military veterans as they transition back into America's communities is beneficial for businesses and the nation, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said here. Navy Adm. James A. Winnefeld Jr. spoke before the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Mission Transition Summit, where he encouraged businesses to hire veterans and their spouses and dispelled misconceptions connecting veterans and post-traumatic stress.

[Read more...](#)

VA Opens New Hospital in Orlando

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary Bob McDonald, along with other federal, state, and local officials, recently cut the ribbon for the much-anticipated official opening and dedication of the Lake Nona VA Hospital near Orlando, Florida. The medical center's initial primary care team was activated in February when the facility doors were first opened for patients. Over the past few months, the hospital has added four more primary care teams and other services, including audiology, dental, and eye clinics.

[Read more...](#)

Talk to Someone Who Gets It: Military OneSource Offers Peer-to-Peer Support

We all have those times in life when stress manages us more than we manage it. Talking with someone who understands the stress you are experiencing, because they've personally been there too, can relieve some of that stress. Military OneSource now offers confidential peer-to-peer specialty consultations. The peer consultants have firsthand life experience as service members or military spouses and have a master's degree in psychology or in a social science field.

[Read more...](#)

How to be Your Own Health Care Advocate (Part 1)

The Veterans Health Administration is the largest health care system in the country. With healthcare services administered through its 1,700 sites of care, sometimes obtaining the quality of care that our injured and ill service men and women and veterans want and so rightfully deserve can be challenging. There are techniques that veterans and their loved ones can learn to better advocate for quality healthcare.

[Read more...](#)

Being Your Own Health Care Advocate (Part 2)

In our previous article, How to Be Your Own Health Care Advocate, we began sharing the importance of the relationship between patients and physicians and how to get the most from that relationship. The first visit with a physician often occurs under stressful times, when you're not feeling well, sometimes in pain, and most often, anxious about what the experience will be.

[Read more...](#)

What VA Means by Evidence When Processing Claims

Having served as a senior Veterans Service Representative for six years, there are a couple of questions I am often asked about claims processing – “What is evidence?” and “Is my evidence helpful to my claim?” What is “evidence”? In short, it is anything you (the claimant) submit to VA, or VA attempts to obtain on your behalf, in support of your disability claim.

[Read more...](#)

Clinician's Corner: Military Psychological Health Experts Answer Providers' Treatment Questions

To support Mental Health Awareness Month in May, experts from Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) invited questions from health care providers who treat members of the military.

[Read more...](#)

DoD Observes National PTSD Awareness Day

June 27's National Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Awareness Day observance reflects how PTSD became known as an “invisible wound of war” during more than a decade of combat, a Defense Health Agency official said.

[Read more...](#)

PTSD Research Quarterly: Technology and PTSD Care: An Update

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

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