

**From:** Connie Mancari <conniemancari@yahoo.com>

**To:** Mattos Alcorn CIV ShariShari.Mattosalcorn@usmc-mccs.org

Sandra Gloversglover@mailbox.sc.edu

Scott Casimiroscottcasimiro@hotmail.com

Scott IsaacksScott.Isaacks@va.gov

Scott JailletteScott\_Jaillette@LGraham.Senate.Gov

Seth BlantonSeth\_Blanton@scott.senate.gov

Shari BakerShari.Baker@uhsinc.com

Sharon LoneSharonL@clemson.edu

Sheldon Herringsherring@ghs.org

Spalvera Mercerspalvera.mercer@us.army.mil

Stacey Daystacey@scorh.net

Steve Bortonsteve.borton@va.gov

Steven DiazSteven@hiddenwounds.org

Sue LevkoffSLEVKOFF@mailbox.sc.edu

Tasha Louis-Nancetlouisnance@hotmail.com

Teresa RixTeresa.Rix@va.gov

Di Chiara, TerrylynnTDichiara@oepp.sc.gov

Thomas AlexanderThomasAlexander@scsenate.gov

Tim Taylortim@usvetcorps.org

Timothy McMurrytimothy.mcmurry@va.gov

Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov

Tonya LobbestaelTonya.Lobbestael@va.gov

**Date:** 5/28/2015 7:29:34 PM

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

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 26, 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

#### **Mental Wellness in Children**

Transitioning from the Month of the Military Child into a month that emphasizes mental health awareness is a great time to discuss mental wellness in children. Each May, Mental Health America reaches millions across the country to highlight the importance of mental health education and treatment.

[Read more...](#)

#### **DoD Education Activity Focuses on College, Career Readiness**

The Department of Defense (DoD) Education Activity will begin a new initiative in the fall to better prepare its students for college or careers, the organization's director said. DoDEA operates 181 accredited schools in 14 districts located in 12 foreign countries, 7 states, Guam, and Puerto Rico. The system serves more than 78,000 children of active duty military and DoD civilian families.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Airmen Can Access Behavioral Health Services in Primary Care Clinics**

Airmen, veterans, and family members seeking care for a variety of mental health and medical conditions have direct access to care from their primary care clinic. The support is available through the Air Force's Behavioral Health Optimization Program, a consultation service within primary care designed to target a specific issue affecting a person's overall health and optimal functioning.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Commission Opens WWI Memorial Design Competition**

The U.S. World War I Centennial Commission is opening a design competition for the national memorial that will be built. The memorial will be built in Pershing Park -- right on Pennsylvania Avenue between 14th and 15th street Northwest. Pershing Park honors General of the Armies John J. Pershing, the commander of the American Expeditionary Force during World War I.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Join TRICARE in Supporting Mental Wellness During Mental Health Awareness Month**

Mental health care is an important yearlong priority for the Military Health System (MHS). While we always encourage our beneficiaries to raise their awareness and take advantage of their mental health benefits, during May, TRICARE and the MHS are recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Social Security: Online Access Can Help Veterans and Families**

On Memorial Day, we honor men and women who died while courageously serving in the U.S. military.

We also recognize active duty service members, especially those who have been wounded. Cities and towns across the United States host Memorial Day parades to thank our service members and their families for their sacrifices.

[Read more...](#)

### **Seven Simple Tools That Have Changed Deployments For Military Families**

Deployments can present challenges for military families. They worry about their loved ones who are called to duty, and are sometimes stressed by things on the home front as well. Much of how a deployment turns out for a military family is unpredictable. However, there's a lot about a deployment that one can plan and prepare for, such as sharing of certain responsibilities, quality communication, identifying key resources like child care services and legal counsel, to name a few.

[Read more...](#)

### **As PTSD Cases are Surging, Army Overhauling Mental Health Services**

The Army is overhauling mental health services after years of war in Iraq and Afghanistan, aiming to end an era of experimentation in which nearly 200 programs were tried on different bases. At Joint Base Lewis-McChord and elsewhere, the Army has pushed counseling teams out of hospitals to embed with troops. It is also cutting back the use of private psychiatric hospitals while expanding intensive mental health programs at military facilities such as Madigan Army Medical Center.

[Read more...](#)

### **Q&A: Legal Tips for Telehealth Mental Counseling [Part Two]**

The rapid growth of websites, applications, and other mobile technology to help mental health providers virtually communicate with patients presents new opportunities to reach service members and veterans. However, this tech-enabled practice, known as telemedicine or telehealth, raises some legal concerns for providers.

[Read more...](#)

### **Connect with the Make the Connection Movement**

They spoke up. Will you? This Mental Health Awareness Month, connect with the movement of veterans discussing their mental health challenges and their journeys toward recovery. Support the powerful movement of veterans who are inspiring their peers to reach out. Visit our dedicated Mental Health Awareness Month page for simple actions you can take to have an impact.

[Learn more...](#)

### **The Hungry Heart Movie Trailer**

The trailer for Bess O'Brien's new documentary, *The Hungry Heart*, which provides an intimate look at the often hidden world of prescription drug addiction through the world of Vermont Pediatrician Fred Holm who works with patients struggling with this disease.

[Watch the trailer...](#)

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

1 Choke Cherry Road  
Rockville, MD 20857

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

You are currently subscribed to smvftacenter as: [conniemancari@yahoo.com](mailto:conniemancari@yahoo.com).

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