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

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 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

#### **SPRC Spotlight: Expanding the Reach of Zero Suicide in States and Communities**

Zero Suicide is a comprehensive approach that aims to dramatically reduce suicide among individuals who are receiving care from health or behavioral health care organizations. Health care providers have key opportunities to identify individuals who are at risk for suicide.

[Read more...](#)

#### **May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. To commemorate the month, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is encouraging veterans, along with their families and friends, to visit and view recovery journey stories on the website, MakeTheConnection.net.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Operation Shower Champions Military Families, Moms-to-be**

A nonprofit organization geared toward helping military families -- especially expectant mothers whose spouses are often away fulfilling their duties -- got a boost from the senior enlisted advisor to the chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at a special event.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Special Veteran Court Offers Hope, Reprieve**

In the early morning hours, hundreds of veterans trickled into a large courtyard located on the west side of the C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center campus. One by one, each veteran was greeted with a smile and a handshake by volunteers manning registration tables for the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System's Stand Down for Homeless Veterans -- an event held each year to assist homeless veterans and those at risk by connecting them with VA and community resources.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Q&A: Legal Tips for Telehealth Mental Counseling**

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...](#)

#### **Duke, State VA Ally to Support Veterans**

Duke University has partnered with the state to improve services for veterans in Durham and the rest of North Carolina. The joint initiative between Duke University's Evidence-based Practice Implementation Center and the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs will focus on increasing access to mental health services for veterans and military families.

[Read more...](#)

#### **STUDY: Care of Military Service Members, Veterans, and their Families [Subscription Required]**

Over the past 13 years, more than two million U.S. military service members have been deployed to combat operations overseas, primarily in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition to over 6,000 deaths and several thousand combat injuries, several hundred thousand service members (and their families) continue to struggle with deployment-related readjustment and medical and mental health challenges.

[Read more...](#)

### **Tenth Anniversary of VA's Polytrauma Program**

Veterans Adam Anicich and Andrew Clark appreciate, more than most, the significance of the 10th anniversary of VA's Polytrauma treatment program. They both served in Iraq and both experienced explosions that left them with traumatic brain injuries.

[Read more...](#)

### **Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti Celebrates Opening of Women Veteran Housing Program**

Mayor Eric Garcetti, VA Secretary Robert McDonald, Councilmember Joe Buscaino, Rep. Ted Liu, and Rep. Janice Hahn celebrated the grand opening of Blue Butterfly Village in San Pedro, a historic new facility dedicated specifically to housing women veterans with children.

[Read more...](#)

### **White House Honors Military Moms at Mother's Day Tea**

"When your children leave, a part of your heart leaves," said Sherry Warner, a mother whose daughter and son-in-law are in the Army. So it was particularly special, Warner said, for the White House to honor military mothers during a special Mother's Day tea hosted by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden.

[Read more...](#)

### **National Council for Behavioral Health Mental Health First Aider Newsletter: Fallen Police Officer Honored Through Partnership, Impact of Bullying on Mental Health, and More**

Windermere Police Department Foundation honors one of their own with Mental Health First Aid partnership, study suggests negative mental health effects of bullying, and Brandywine Health Foundation helps school cafeteria workers identify warning signs in students.

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

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

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