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Subject: FW: Topics in the News

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

Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 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

Veterans Matter Helps Their 500th Homeless Veteran

Veterans Matter, a Toledo, Ohio, based Veterans Service Organization was created in 2012 to help house local homeless veterans in the HUD-VASH program cover their deposits. Fast forward to today. Backed 20 celebrities including Katy Perry, Susan Sarandon, Dusty Hill, John Mellencamp, Kid Rock, and other Veterans Matter reached a milestone this Veteran's Day, housing its 500th homeless veteran.

[Read more...](#)

Winter Haven Stand Down is a "WRAP"

A cold, rainy day couldn't keep the volunteers from the Winter Haven Stand Down. As the hundreds of Veterans entered the Washington, D.C. VA Medical Center from the frigid weather outside, they were welcomed with sharing smiles, handshakes, words of encouragement, and expressions of gratitude for th service.

[Read more...](#)

New Application from ZERO TO THREE: Babies on the Homefront

This free app for smartphones, made available through a generous grant from the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, is available in both English and Spanish on iTunes and the Google Play store. *Babies on the Homefront* is designed especially for military and veteran families as they navigate the many transitions are part of serving—including deployment, reintegration, moving, and transitioning back to civilian life. The free app makes it easy to select from behavior tips and activities for parents and children, with a spe section for parental self-care. The app also provides access to a series of newly developed, short video podcasts on a range of parenting topics particularly relevant to military and veteran families.

[Learn more...](#)

Webinar to Outline TRICARE's Preventive Care Benefit

January 30, 2015; 12:00-1:00 p.m. EST

TRICARE and Military OneSource will host a webinar to discuss TRICARE's Preventive Care Benefit. TRICARE covers clinical preventive services for all beneficiaries. By taking appropriate steps to ensure health and wellness, untold numbers of illnesses can be prevented or caught early enough to cause minin damage.

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

VA Announces Single Regional Framework under MyVA Initiative

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it is taking the first steps under the MyVA initiative to realign its many organizational maps into one map with five regions to better serve veterans.

The new regions under the MyVA alignment will allow VA to begin the process of integrating disparat organizational boundaries into a single regional framework to enhance internal coordination.

[Read more...](#)

Prolonged Exposure: A First-line Treatment for PTSD

In 2006, VA began a national training initiative to help VA clinicians learn two of the most effective typ of psychotherapy for treating PTSD, Prolonged Exposure and Cognitive Processing Therapy. Today ove 6,000 VA therapists have been trained in these treatments.

[Read more...](#)

This New Year, Resolve to Get Help: PTSD Monthly Update - January 2015

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

Veteran Suicide Prevention Bill Moves Forward in Senate

The Clay Hunt SAV Act, named after a Marine vet who committed suicide in 2011, was passed by the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and now must pass a vote in the full Senate to become law. The House overwhelmingly passed the bill with 403 votes earlier this month.

[Read more...](#)

2015 National Veterans Creative Arts Competition Underway

The 2015 National Veterans Creative Arts Competition began on January 1st. During the months of January, February, and March, veterans enrolled at VA medical facilities or outpatient clinics are invited to enter their art, music, dance, drama, and creative writing entries into the local competition phase.

[Read more...](#)

Super Bowl Participants to Troops: 'You're the Real Heroes'

With the National Football League's all-star game in the rear-view mirror, anticipation for the league's championship -- the final pro football game of the year -- begins. The Seattle Seahawks and New England Patriots, the teams preparing to square off February 1 in Super Bowl XLIX, shared their appreciation for U.S. service members serving overseas during media availabilities.

[Read more...](#)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

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