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**Date:** 8/26/2015 5:36:34 AM

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

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 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**

#### **SMVF TA Center Webinar: Military Culture Training for Strengthening Access to SMVF Behavioral Health Services**

September 22, 2015; 2:00-3:30 p.m. EDT

This webinar will include information about the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA's) new released "Understanding Military Culture" Community Provider Toolkit, the impact of the VA's Choice Program on community providers, and other military culture training resources. State examples from SAMHSA's Policy Academy teams will also be featured to highlight successful implementation of military culture training and collaboration with the VA to increase access to services.

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

#### **DCoE WEBINAR: The Impact of Sexual Assault and Treatment Options**

August 27, 2015; 1:00-2:30 p.m. EDT

According to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Children's Bureau fiscal year 2012 report, United States, state, and local child protective services received an estimated 3.4 million referrals of children being abused or neglected. Of these child victims, 9 percent were victims of sexual abuse. The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2010 Summary Report identified that one in two women (44.6 percent) and one in five men (22.2 percent) experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime.

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

#### **WEBINAR: An Overview of Three Models of Family Peer Support**

August 26, 2015; 3:00-4:00 p.m. EDT

The world of family peer support is continuing to expand, and the models for providing this support continue to emerge. As our knowledge of family peer support continues to grow, a variety of programs offering unique modalities and characteristics have been developed, researched, and found to be effective. This webinar will explore three nationally known programs and will delve the nuances of each.

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

#### **TRAINING: Mental Health Care for Family Members of Post-9/11 Veterans: Practical Approaches to Addressing the Impact of the Invisible Wounds of War on Families**

The goal of the course is to educate primary care and community mental health providers about the mental health care and support of family members of post-9/11 veterans who may be experiencing the Invisible Wounds of War. Community clinicians often are unaware that they are treating family members of veterans, and few community providers receive any guidance in addressing the challenges these military families face.

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

#### **South Carolina Passes Significant Military Friendly Legislation in 2015**

Legislators passed seven bills supporting the military, some in the waning moments of the legislative session. They included extending the property tax exemption on the vehicles of disabled veterans to their surviving spouses, and charging in-state college tuition to service members who leave the service while in South Carolina.

[Read more...](#)



### **Who Needs Vet Centers Anyway?**

VA provides mental health services at its hospitals and Community-Based Outpatient Clinics to veterans of all eras, regardless of their combat history. So, who needs Vet Centers anyway? I've asked that question often. I am a combat veteran and I work as an outreach technician at a Vet Center in New Jersey. I would like to answer that question for you, the long way around, and I'll start from the beginning.

[Read more...](#)

### **Teachers are Key to Helping Brain-Injured Students Succeed**

Going back to college after a brain injury can be a challenge, but it can also be the best medicine that person can get — as long as the proper accommodations are in place.

[Read more...](#)

### **Wounded Veterans, Those with PTSD, Find Ways to Cope**

Erica Erickson couldn't sleep. She'd often wake up screaming, drenched in sweat. The nightmares got so bad for Erickson that at one point, she and her husband placed a stack of towels next to the bed every night.

[Read more...](#)

### **Face of Defense: Military Helps Launch Soldier's Dream of Helping Veterans**

U.S. Army Reserve warrant officer candidate Sofia Olds credits the Army National Guard with a lifetime of success. She started her military career in the Florida Army National Guard at age 20 as a motor transport operator. Olds, now assigned to the 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion in Dothan, Alabama, became interested in joining the National Guard by hearing her husband's stories of travel and exciting work.

[Read more...](#)

### **Veterans Find Swimming with Sharks Therapeutic**

Swimming with the largest shark in the world may sound a bit unnerving to some, but for a handful of disabled veterans receiving health care at Atlanta VA Medical Center's recreational therapy program, it's exactly the kind of therapy they need. The Atlanta medical center's recreation therapy program partnered with the Georgia Aquarium on August 12, 2015 to provide six disabled veterans a unique opportunity to submerge in the aquarium's 6.3 million gallon exhibit, Ocean Voyager, and experience the tranquility of the graceful animals swimming below.

[Read more...](#)

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

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

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