

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

**To:** Mattos Alcorn CIV ShariShari.Mattosalcorn@usmc-mccs.org  
Saundra 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 Mercerspалvera.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, TerrylynnTerrylynn.DiChiara@admin.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:** 7/31/2015 4:25:24 PM

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

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

**Sent:** Friday, July 31, 2015 1:59 PM

**To:** Connie Mancari

**Subject:** Topics in the News

## SAMHSA's Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance Center

### Topics in the News

#### **Indiana Governor Mike Pence Signs Bills to Protect Deployed Military, Veterans**

Indiana Governor Mike Pence stopped by the 122nd Fighter Wing to sign two bills that will further protect deployed men and women and their families. One bill will help members while they're deployed. The other gives them a leg up when they return.

[Read more...](#)

#### **MyVA: A Message from Secretary Bob McDonald**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is undergoing a radical transformation to improve our relationship with our veterans. This relationship is the cornerstone for all that the VA does. This connection begins the moment a person joins the military and lasts through final honors. VA is the bridge that helps veterans transition to civilian life, and we continue to support them through other key life events, such as learning a trade or getting a degree. The foundation of that relationship is built on trust and respect. It must be built to last a lifetime.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Traumatic Brain Injury Webinar: Returning to College after Concussions and Mild Brain Injuries**

Aug. 13, 2015; 1:00-2:30 p.m. EDT

Increased awareness, improved treatment, and greater access to educational supports have prompted a rise in interest about the effects of concussions and brain injuries on the pursuit of postsecondary education. Many students with mild brain injuries experience minimal effects after the first few weeks or months, thus making the impact on academic progress negligible.

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

#### **2015 DCoE Psychological Health, TBI Summit Registration Opens**

September 9-11, 2015

Registration is open for the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury annual summit. The summit, "Continuum of Care and Care Transitions in the Military Health System," is scheduled September 9-11, and will promote a collaborative approach to meeting the psychological health and traumatic brain injury (TBI) needs of today's service members, veterans, and their beneficiaries in all treatment contexts and phases of recovery.

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

#### **Social Support is Vital to Women at War**

Men and women experience war differently, new research shows. For women in the military, social support appears even more vital for maintaining good psychological health, compared to their male peers.

[Read more...](#)

#### **VA Nursing Academic Partnerships**

VA Nursing Academic Partnerships, a collaborative program between VA facilities and nursing schools, offers students a comprehensive clinical experience with a focus on veteran care. Currently in its second year with 25 locations nationwide, the program develops a mutually beneficial relationship; students receive intensive clinical training, while supplying Veterans Health Administration a source of top-notch nurses to best serve veterans.

[Read more...](#)

### **Recovery Care Coordinators Can Help!**

Recovery Care Coordinators help wounded, ill, and injured service members, their caregivers, and their families navigate the recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration process. They help ensure smooth transition from a recovery and rehabilitation setting back into the civilian community or, in some instances, back to military duty.

[Read more...](#)

### **Attention-Control Video Game Curbs Combat Veterans' PTSD Symptoms**

A computerized attention-control training program significantly reduced combat veterans' preoccupation with – or avoidance of – threat and attendant post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms. By contrast, another type of computerized training, called attention bias modification, which has proven helpful in treating anxiety disorders – did not reduce PTSD symptoms.

[Read more...](#)

### **Four Ways You Can Support Veterans Living with PTSD in Your Community**

One: Put it in context. Although the prevalence of PTSD is higher among returning veterans than in the general population, the vast majority of service members will return without the disorder.

[Read more...](#)

### **National Center for PTSD: Clinician's Trauma Update – Issue 9(3) – June 2015**

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

#### **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)

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