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

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 8, 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

#### **Military Suicides aren't Linked to Deployment, Study Finds**

Military suicides may be more likely after members leave the service than during active duty deployment particularly if their time in uniform is brief, a U.S. study finds. "It was certainly intuitive as the wars went on and suicides went up for people to assume that deployment was the reason, but our data show that that's too simplistic; when you look at the total population, deployment is not associated with suicide," said lead author Mark Reger, of Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Tacoma, Washington.

[Read more...](#)

[Link to study...](#)

#### **Developing a Research Strategy for Suicide Prevention in the Department of Defense: Status of Current Research, Prioritizing Areas of Need, and Recommendations for Moving Forward**

In response to the elevated rate of suicide among U.S. service members, a congressionally mandated task force recommended that the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) create a unified, comprehensive strategic plan for suicide prevention research to ensure that DoD-funded studies align with DoD's goals. To help meet this objective, a RAND study cataloged the research funded by DoD and other entities relevant to military personnel, examined the extent to which current research maps to DoD's strategic research need and provided recommendations to ensure that proposed research strategies align with the national research strategy and integrate with DoD's data collection and program evaluation strategies.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Army Veteran Writes Children's Book to Explain PTSD to Younger Kids**

As he pulls up her colorful blankets and tucks his daughter Raegan in for bed, Retired Army 1st Sgt. Seth Kastle knows that tonight "bedtime" will be a little different. Tonight, Seth will read his daughters "Why Dad So Mad?" — a book he wrote about himself.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Month of the Military Child (April 2015)**

April is the Month of the Military Child. This awareness month was established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. There are approximately 2 million military children, ranging in ages from newborn to 18 years old; 1.3 million military children are school-aged. Care of military children sustains our fighting force, and strengthens the health, security, and safety of our nation's families and communities.

[Read more...](#)

#### **National Public Health Week - Five Days to Health**

April 6-12 is National Public Health Week. Take the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)'s Five Days to Health challenge. Each day brings a new focus to help build a healthier you, one step at a time.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Veterans Are Using Social Media to Create Emergency Networks for Those in Need**

The officer of the day picks up the phone and it's one of those calls you just hate when you've got "the duty." A brother Marine is calling in like a ghost of a long-gone, but not forgotten, battle. Something he saw in the media triggered something that the duty officer recognizes as a manifestation of the post-traumatic stress disorder that stalks too many combat survivors.

[Read more...](#)

### **Force Multipliers in the Fight Against Veteran Homelessness**

During the late night of January 25, into the early morning of January 26, I participated in the point-in-time count, an annual count on a single night of individuals in a community who are experiencing homelessness led by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These one-night snapshot counts provide VA, HUD and communities with data they need to understand the number of veterans who are homeless so localized plans can be developed to address homelessness.

[Read more...](#)

### **Suicide Prevention Resource Center's The Weekly Spark: Friday, April 3, 2015**

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

### **Why Choose an Evidence-Based Treatment? - PTSD Monthly Update, March 2015**

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

### **Medication for the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder: A Brief Guide**

[Download the SAMHSA guide ...](#)

### **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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