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Subject: FW: Topics in the News

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

Sent: Tuesday, April 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

VA Expands Choice Program Eligibility, Effective Immediately

In order to expand eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it will determine eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program based on the distance between a veteran's place of residence and the nearest VA medical facility using driving distance rather than straight-line distance. This change has been published in the Federal Register and is effective immediately.

[Read more...](#)

First Lady: Tech Industry to Train, Hire 90,000 Military Vets

Michelle Obama announced that the technology industry has promised to hire and train 90,000 military veterans and spouses over the next 5 years – the latest private-sector commitment to her campaign to help veterans.

[Read more...](#)

National Guard Members Face Challenges in Seeking Help for PTSD

It was December 2007 and Darryl Davidson was driving down a busy San Antonio street when something flew off the truck in front of him. He thinks it might have been a car battery, but he still isn't sure. "I was some sort of flashback. I was there for probably 20 or 30 minutes," he says.

[Read more...](#)

Veterans' Real Stories of Strength and Resilience

The two things that might occur to some veterans listening to Nicole and Brent and Tim tell their stories 'Yes, I get it...been there;' and, 'How brave these veterans are to sit there and tell their very personal stories.' They share their experiences because they want other veterans to know that help is out there and that veterans with mental health challenges should reach out for that help. They did and they are taking their lives back.

[Read more...](#)

STUDY: Stigma, Discrimination, and Well-Being Among California Adults Experiencing Mental Health Challenges

This study presents results of the 2014 California Well-Being Survey, which tracks mental illness stigma and discrimination, well-being, and exposure to prevention and early intervention activities among Californians experiencing psychological distress.

[Read more...](#)

Online Course Helps Healthcare Professionals Better Serve Veterans and Service Members

The VA and U.S. Department of Defense have announced the launch of an online continuing education course aimed at helping health care professionals better treat veterans and service members. The free course, *Military Culture: Core Competencies for Health Care Professionals*, is being offered to community health care providers nationwide through the Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) Training Finder Real-time Affiliated Integrated Network (TRAIN), which launched earlier this month. VHA TRAIN is part of TRAIN National, a comprehensive catalog of public health learning products.

[Read more...](#)

NEWS10 Special Report: Veterans in Prison

They once served their country with pride, but today, they are behind bars, and they belong to a population

of incarcerated veterans for whom the battle against their personal demons has never ended. But this time getting locked up could be the second chance they need and perhaps deserve.

[Read more...](#)

U.S. Military Spouses Battle Career Obstacles

Rachel Tice wants more from her career. But the 32-year-old wife of a U.S. Marine captain finds it difficult to keep her working life on track because of the demands placed on military families. And she's not alone.

[Read more...](#)

Female Military Vets Make Jobs Gains, but Still Lag Behind

In recent years, the U.S. government and corporate America have made a massive push to hire veterans, but not all former military service members are seeing the full benefit of these efforts. According to the most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the jobless rate for post-9/11 female veterans was 8.5 percent in 2014, higher than the 6.9 percent rate for their male counterparts.

[Read more...](#)

Eight Resources to Help You Talk with Kids about Brain Injury, Mental Health

Life as a military child can be tough. But, when you are also the child of a military member coping with psychological health or traumatic brain injury concern, life can feel overwhelming and sometimes scary. Talking to children openly about these concerns can help ease fear and prepare them for challenges ahead.

[Read more...](#)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

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