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

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

**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 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**

#### **Texas Governor Greg Abbott Signs Legislation Championing Texas Veterans**

Governor Greg Abbott hosted a signing ceremony at Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Post 76 in San Antonio, the oldest VFW hall in Texas, highlighting multiple bills to implement his veterans' initiative.

[Read more...](#)

#### **VA Launches Community-based Employment Service for Homeless Veterans**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced a new employment program aimed at helping job-ready veterans exiting homelessness, and those on the brink of homelessness, gain stable and long-term employment. The new program, Homeless Veteran Community Employment Services, relies on Community Employment Coordinators who know their communities and can work with local employers to identify suitable jobs based on a veteran's skills and abilities.

[Read more...](#)

#### **VA's West LA Campus Takes First Step to Return to its Deeded Mission: Housing Veterans**

The VA will open a transitional housing facility for veterans and launch a planning process later in June for the redevelopment of its 387-acre West Los Angeles VA Medical Center campus.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Veterans in LA Can Text Other Veterans for Help with New Program**

As thousands of troops leave the military each month without jobs or a plan for permanent housing, a new text messaging program will link veterans to peers who can connect them to the services and support they need.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Suicide Rate of Female Military Veterans is Called 'Staggering'**

New government research shows that female military veterans commit suicide at nearly six times the rate of other women, a startling finding that experts say poses disturbing questions about the backgrounds and experiences of women who serve in the armed forces.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Designing Clothes for Veterans with Prosthetics**

She was asked the question, "How do you put on pants?" Air Force Veteran Judy McCombs answered with a laugh, "In bed with a lot of wiggling. It's like putting on skinny jeans." The question was actually quite serious and her response was significant to Erika Morales-Hernandez, a senior student in clothing engineering, completing her capstone project at SUNY's Fashion Institute of Technology.

[Read more...](#)

#### **How to Improve Your Health with Mindfulness Meditation**

As described in previous blog posts, mindfulness meditation has swiftly gained popularity as a self-care strategy for improving psychological health. It's not only a hot media topic, but also an exploding area of new research. However, many people are confused about the definition of mindfulness and the different types of mindfulness meditation. In this post, Dr. Marina Khusid, a family medicine physician and chief of Integrative Medicine with the Deployment Health Clinica

Center, outlines some important distinctions between common mindfulness meditation techniques.

[Read more...](#)

### **Clinician's Corner: Tips to Stay Engaged in Therapy**

As clinicians, we've all had patients who struggle to remain engaged in therapy, especially after a breakthrough, challenging session or even an alliance rupture. We know that almost half of patients leave psychotherapy too soon, which reduces the effectiveness of therapy. Taking a look at ourselves as therapists, and the therapeutic relationship, can help us find ways to stay engaged and keep patients as active participants in their therapy.

[Read more...](#)

### **SPRC's The Weekly Spark: Friday, June 5, 2015**

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

### **War-related Illness and Injury Study Center Advantage Newsletter - Spring/Summer 2015**

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

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

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