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**Date:** 2/26/2015 12:37:16 PM

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

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 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**

#### **Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP) Training: University Counseling Center Core Competency Program**

The University Counseling Center Core Competency Program (UC4) training is a day-long training session that addresses the social, cultural, clinical, and campus specific concerns of service members and veterans. CDP provides this training free of charge to interested colleges and universities. The UC4 program is designed for clinical staff working in a university or college community seeking to understand the unique challenges and experience of veterans attending college. Curriculum includes interactive, didactic, and workshop components that address multicultural understanding of service members and veterans, campus specific challenges, deployment cycle stressors, outreach discussions and workshops, and an overview of evidence-based treatment of PTSD appropriate for counseling center work. Continuing education credits commonly offered for licensed mental health and behavioral health providers attending the program.

[Learn more...](#)

#### **Webinar: Physical Symptoms and Mental Health: Assessment, Evaluation, and Management of Common Symptoms**

February 26, 2015, 1:00-2:30 p.m. (ET)

Common physical symptoms such as pain, fatigue, insomnia, and gastrointestinal complaints account for half of all outpatient visits. However, numerous studies reveal that diagnostic test results are often normal and the symptoms remain unexplained. Depression and anxiety often accompany physical symptoms in which case co-management of both physical and psychological conditions is important. Understanding the epidemiology, diagnostic evaluation and clinical management of common physical symptoms can benefit both physical and psychological health.

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

#### **Webinar: Traumatic Brain Injury Educational Forum: Best Practices and Current Research**

March 2, 2015; 1:00-3:00 p.m. (ET)

According to the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC), 18,564 service members sustained traumatic brain injury (TBI) in the first three quarters of 2014. The classification of mild TBI accounts for more than 80 percent of reported TBI to DVBIC. The vast majority of TBIs sustained are in a non-deployed setting in training exercises, motor vehicle accidents, and sports and leisure activities. These injuries directly affect the health and safety of individual service members and subsequently the level of unit readiness and troop retention.

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

#### **Kansas House Gives Initial OK to Bill Allowing Preferential Hiring of Military Veterans**

Employers would be able to show preference to military veterans when hiring under a bill that gained initial approval in the Kansas House. House Bill 2154 passed easily by a voice vote. The bill is intended to improve the employment prospects of veterans.

[Read more...](#)

#### **Experts: Males Also are Victims of Sexual Assault**

Experts urged Army leaders to reach out to male victims of sexual assault, noting people should not view sexual violence as a crime perpetrated exclusively against women. Jim Hopper, a psychologist and researcher, and Russell Strand, a retired Criminal Investigative Service special agent, spoke about an aspect of sexual violence not often discussed: sexual assaults on men.

[Read more...](#)

### **Treat Stress, Anxiety Early for Successful TBI Recovery**

Most first responders are familiar with the “golden hour”—those precious 60 minutes from the time a trauma patient is injured to when they should get medical attention. Although this magical hour remains topic of debate among experts, most will agree that the sooner trauma is treated, the better the outcome.

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### **New Veterans Training Program Offers New Skills for Better Job Opportunities**

Larry Jones of Frisco has been job searching for more than 6 months since he was laid off. Recently, the Marine Corps veteran was passed up on an entry-level information technology job because of lack of training. “I actually had a job opportunity, but I didn’t get it because I didn’t have this training,” he said

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### **Filmmakers Put Veterans and Suicide in Spotlight**

Two filmmakers who won an Oscar for their documentary on a suicide hotline used their acceptance spe to urge troubled veterans to receive help.

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### **Statement from Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald on Oscar Win for HBO Documentary Highlighting Life-Saving Work of Veterans Crisis Line**

Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) Robert A. McDonald issued the following statement on the Oscar wi for the HBO documentary CRISIS HOTLINE: VETERANS PRESS 1.

[Read more...](#)

### **VA’s Veterans Crisis Line Saves Lives Every Day**

VA’s Veterans Crisis Line has answered over 1,625,000 calls. That’s more than a million-and-a-half tim veteran has felt suicidal or depressed or lost and decided to call for help...and the Crisis Line was there. a crisis too many of our wounded warriors face.

[Read more...](#)

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

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