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Date: 7/15/2015 12:32:35 PM

Subject: FW: Topics in the News

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

Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 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

Helping Your Provider Understand Military Culture

The Veterans Choice Program is making it easier for thousands of veterans to receive their health care from providers outside of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) system. Many community providers are not trained or experienced in treating this unique veteran patient community. To make it easier for health care professionals to understand veterans and their military experience, VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) have developed a free online continuing education course, Military Culture: Core Competencies for Health Care Professionals. [Read more...](#)

DoD Secretary Ashton Carter Asks County Executives to Find New Ways to Work with Service Members, Veterans

As the nation's military adapts new strategies and personnel policies, Defense Secretary Ashton Carter asked counties and communities across America to consider new ways to provide services to troops and veterans. Secretary Carter told the National Association of Counties conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, that as strategies change to keep America safe, personnel policies will change, too. Counties, cities, and towns across America will be affected, he said. [Read more...](#)

[WEBINAR] Certificates of Excellence: New Program Supports Behavioral Health Treatment Providers

July 17, 2015; 12:00-1:00 p.m. EDT

With rapid change brought about through payment reforms, mergers and acquisitions, and the implementation of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics, 2015 is a prime time to learn how your organization can advance its practices for what lies ahead. Rapid change requires CEOs to identify efficient and effective ways to train and prepare staff to be their very best, and the new Relias Certificates of Excellence program provides continued education opportunities in core clinical, management and leadership competencies that can be leveraged by cutting edge organizations focused on organizational excellence. [Learn more and register...](#)

[WEBINAR] Alcohol Misuse in the Military: Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment

July 23, 2015; 1:00-2:30 p.m. EDT

According to the DoD 2011 Health Related Behavior Survey, approximately 33 percent of active duty service members reported binge drinking in the past 30 days, higher than the civilian estimate of 27 percent. Several interventions for alcohol use disorders exist, but many of these approaches are too intense for sub-threshold alcohol misuse. The Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) model, promoted by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force in 2013, is a comprehensive, integrated, public health approach to the delivery of early intervention and treatment services for persons with alcohol use disorders. The SBIRT model enables healthcare professionals to systematically screen patients with the goal of preventing the negative effects of alcohol use among service members and beneficiaries. [Learn more and register...](#)

[TRAINING] Military Child Education Coalition 2015 National Training Seminar

July 30-31, 2015

The 2015 speakers will present sessions on a variety of topics of interest to the Military Child Education Coalition audience: Character Development, Systems of Support, and Academics and Innovation. The sessions and speakers will move beyond entry-level awareness and will offer the audience innovative ideas, active hands-on learning, and share information relevant to the professional development of educators and military professionals who are dedicated to serving the military-connected child.

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

DoD Quarterly Suicide Report: Calendar Year 2015, 1st Quarter

The Quarterly Suicide Report (QSR) summarizes suicide counts for the Active Component and the Reserve Component (Reserves and the National Guard). The 2015 1st Quarter DoD QSR shows calendar year 2015 1st Quarter suicides for each of the Services.

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

New VA Program Helps Employ Veterans by Taking Care of Simple Logistics

David Bowles is excitedly making plans to move from a homeless shelter to an apartment of his own in a few weeks, thanks to a new VA program helping homeless veterans find long-term employment.

[Read more...](#)

Return from Chaos: Treating PTSD

Psychologist Peter Tuerk was attracted to the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center because it allowed him to marry two of his passions: clinical treatment of veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and continuing advancement of PTSD treatments through research. Tuerk's passion for treating veterans has propelled him to be a leader in the field.

[Read more...](#)

[Watch the full TEDx Talk...](#)

Prolonged Exposure: PTSD Therapy That Works

PTSD can occur after someone experiences or sees a traumatic event. This distress may be highest when dealing with memories, thoughts, feelings, and situations that are related to the trauma. Prolonged exposure therapy is a type of therapy that helps decrease distress around trauma.

[Read more...](#)

Mental Health Nonprofit to Offer Class to Help Family Members of Military Veterans

Debbie Wosnik said her husband was never the same when he came home after serving in Vietnam for 13 months. He struggled with anger and anxiety issues to the point where it interrupted his daily living and family life. "Every Fourth of July he would hit the ground when fireworks went off (as if to take cover)," she said. "He couldn't stand rattling noises because it would remind him of war."

[Read more...](#)

[Learn more about NAMI Homefront...](#)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

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