



# **NORTH CAROLINA PRACTICE IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE MENTAL HEALTH - DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

## **5: Veteran Suicides November 7, 2017 Agenda**

**Harold Kudler** received his medical degree from Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, trained in Psychiatry at Yale, and is Adjunct Associate Professor at Duke. He has received teaching awards from the Duke Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, the American Psychiatric Association, and the American Psychoanalytic Association. From 2002 to 2010, Dr. Kudler coordinated mental health services for Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN 6), a three-state region of the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and from 2000 through 2005 co-chaired VA's Special Committee on PTSD, which reports to Congress. He founded the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies' (ISTSS) PTSD Practice Guidelines Taskforce and has served on the ISTSS Board of Directors. He co-lead development of the joint VA/Department of Defense Guideline for the Management of Posttraumatic Stress and serves as advisor to Sesame Street's *Talk Listen Connect* series for military families. From 2006 to 2014, he co-lead the North Carolina Governor's Focus on Returning Military Members and their Families. In 2012, he was appointed to the North Carolina Institute of Medicine. From 2004 to 2014, Dr. Kudler was Associate Director of the VA's Mid-Atlantic Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC), which focuses on Deployment Mental Health. From 2010 to 2013, Dr. Kudler was also Medical Lead for the VISN 6 Rural Health Initiative. In July 2014, he joined VA Central Office in Washington DC where he serves as Chief Consultant for Mental Health Services. Dr. Kudler is currently detailed to serve as Acting Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Patient Care Services.

**Susan Robinson**, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, NC Department of Health and Human Services has more than thirty years of experience working with children and youth with serious emotional disorders and disabilities and their families. She has served as the Child Planner and Manager for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant and staff to the Planning and Advisory Council. She is the Division's coordinator for suicide prevention and mental health promotion. She uses a rich blend of experiences from her work with communities in NC, prior in NYS, and nationally, partnering individuals with lived experience, leading non-profits, schools, community centers for MHDDSA services, coordinating volunteers in homeless shelters, and in program design and business management to effect change. More importantly today, she brings her life experiences with military family members and as one touched by suicide, her greatest joy and job as a parent that keeps her grounded and focused on making the connections and making a difference.

**Gary Cunha**, MSW, LCSW served in the US Marine Corps from 1980 to 1988 and attained the rank of Staff Sergeant. He received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from East Carolina University and did social work internships at the Greenville Vet Center and at the Fayetteville VA Medical Center. From 1992 to 2007, he worked at the Durham VA Medical Center and the Fayetteville Vet Center and had academic appointments at Duke University, Campbell University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Fayetteville State University. In 2007, Mr. Cunha became the Suicide Prevention Coordinator at the Durham VA Medical Center, and, in this capacity, he provides Operation S.A.V.E. training to all non-clinical staff and all new employees as part of new employee education. He regularly provides outreach and community education to active duty military, reservists, the National Guard, police, and survivor's groups. Mr. Cunha currently serves as the Suicide Prevention Coordinator for Durham VA Medical Center.

**Rev. John P. Oliver**, D.Min. serves as the Chief of Chaplains for the Durham VA Health Care System. Along with providing pastoral care for Veterans and training ministry students, he researches the treatment of moral injury and PTSD in combat veterans. He has trained ministerial students and local clergy across the country regarding their role in supporting Veterans after war.

**Bruce Capehart, MD** is the Medical Director for the OEF/OIF Program at the VA Medical Center in Durham and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Duke University Medical Center. He is affiliated with the National Center for PTSD as one of two PTSD mentors for the VA's mid-Atlantic region, and as a faculty member for the Center for PTSD's consultation program. His clinical interests include the diagnosis and management of behavioral health conditions in the combat veteran. When not seeing outpatients at the Durham VA, Dr. Capehart can be found with the injury biomechanics team at Duke's Pratt School of Engineering where they are funded by various Department of Defense agencies to investigate the biomechanics and physiology of blast and blunt trauma. Dr. Capehart is a Veteran of the US Army Reserve and was called to active duty in 2003 for a deployment as the only military psychiatrist in Afghanistan.

**SFC Burnie Brodie** is an 18-year Veteran of the Armed Services, where he has spent six years serving as a US Submariner and 12 years as a Human Resource Sergeant in the NC Army National Guard, assigned to various duties from Battalion Career Counselor and a Suicide Instructor for the Recruiting and Retention Battalion. SFC Brodie has served as the Master Resiliency and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Trainer for Wounded Warriors for the Warrior Transition Battalion, Fort Bragg, NC culminating in his current assignment as the State Resiliency Coordinator and Suicide Prevention Program Manager for the NC Army National Guard.

**Ken Fleishman, MD** is a board certified and recertified in child, adolescent and adult psychiatrist in Fayetteville, N.C, at the Cape Fear Valley Medical Center where is the Chief of Psychiatry and Medical Director of Behavioral Health Care. He received his medical degree from Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. He completed his residency in general psychiatry at the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Towson Maryland and in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Emory School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia. He was Medical Director of Laurel Heights Hospital, a residential treatment facility for children and adolescents in Atlanta, for over 15 years where he worked with many military dependents sent from all over the world. Since returning to Fayetteville in 2014, he has worked closely with members of the military and their dependents providing emergency assessment, inpatient treatment and outpatient care. He is also currently the Medical Director of the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic which opened in July 2017 to serve non-active duty members of the military and dependents of members of active and non-active duty military personnel. He has been in practice for over 22 years.

**Angela Tunno, Ph.D., M.S.** is a medical instructor and licensed clinical psychologist at Duke University Medical Center, the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, and the Center for Child and Family Health. She received her doctorate in Clinical Child Psychology at the University of Kansas (KU) and completed her clinical internship at Duke University Medical Center. She received her M.S. in Applied Clinical Psychology at the University of South Carolina-Aiken. Prior to attending KU, she completed a one-year fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Violence Prevention (DVP) where she helped develop and disseminate prevention efforts for child maltreatment and community violence. She specializes in clinical interventions for adolescents, children and families presenting with an array of behavioral and emotional difficulties, including traumatic exposure, suicidal ideation, non-suicidal self-injury, and chronic emotional dysregulation. Her research interests include public policy and advocacy for children, youth, and families; prevention of child maltreatment; resiliency factors post-traumatic experiences; trauma-informed approaches to acute crises; and dissemination/implementation of evidence-based therapeutic interventions.