Vice Chair Updates

3 Nov Warsaw Veterans Day Parade
- Oldest Consecutive Parade in America NC's official Parade

3 Nov WWII Veteran Jarvis Godwin Outland USS Oklahoma
- MIA remains recovered Memorial & burial Murfreesboro NC

7 Nov Veteran Treatment Court 5th Anniversary Harnett County Courthouse

8 Nov Stand-down Caldwell Co (Lenoir NC)

11 Nov Veterans Day
- Numerous events across the State

Kody Kinsley
Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health & IDD
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
October 25, 2018

• 2018-2019 MHBG Expansion:
  * Steven A Cohen Military Family Clinic at Cape Fear Valley:
    Mental Health support for up to 500 Veterans & Families suffering from SMIs
  * Chronically Homeless Veterans Outreach (PATH):
    7 Outreach positions to link Chronically Homeless Veterans suffering from Mental Illness (SMI, SPMI) to services and housing.
    Mecklenburg, Guilford, Wake, Cumberland, Onslow Counties

DMH/DD/SAS has INCREASED support for Veterans, Servicemembers and Families TENFOLD (10x) from 2017-2019:
MORE Services, Training, Coordination and Outreach for Student Veterans, NCNG, Mental & Behavioral Health and Homeless Veterans

Mark Bilosz
Veterans Benefits Administration
Winston-Salem Regional Office
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Upcoming VBA Outreach Events

• Raleigh Veteran Stand Down
  • November 2, 2018 – South Wilmington Street Center
    1401 S Wilmington St, Raleigh, NC 27601

• VetTalkX and Resource Fair
  • November 16, 2018 – Goodwill Industries
    2701 University Parkway, Winston-Salem, NC 27115

For More Information About Upcoming Events, Please Visit:
https://www.benefits.va.gov/ROWINSTONSALEM/index.asp
Martin Falls
Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs
Retired Colonel, U.S. Army National Guard
NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Linda Exner
Acting Deputy Network Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs
Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network (VISN 6)

Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network (VISN 6)
The Charles George VAMC in Asheville will celebrate its centennial on Friday October 26 with the grand reopening of Building 9, "The Hope and Recovery Center". Dr. Carl Bazemore will be assuming the Interim Medical Center Director Position at the Fayetteville VAMC effective 11/15/2018. Post Hurricane Florence and Michael Recovery efforts are ongoing.
Mark Edmonds
Chief Operating Officer - Workforce Solutions
North Carolina Department of Commerce

Jeff Smith
Military and Veterans Program Liaison
Division of MH/DD/SAS
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

NC GWG
GOVERNOR'S WORKING GROUP ON VETERANS, SERVICE MEMBERS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

Register for our email updates: ncfgwg.org
Meeting agenda and minutes: http://bit.ly/GWGupdates
2006

- March:
  The Road Home: National Conference on Returning Veterans' and Their Families' Behavioral Health
  (NC DHHS/EMHDD/SAAS, Governor's Institute)

- June:
  NC Focus Group on Servicemembers, Veterans, and Families
  (DHHS/DMH, DVA/SVA, UNC-Citizen Soldier Support Program, G)

- September:
  NC Veterans Summit

2008

- SAMHSA funds Soldiers, Military, Veterans, and Families (SMVF) Technical Assistance Center (TAC)
  - Develops Policy Academies which lead to Learning Communities on jail diversion and treatment recovery; diversity of veterans; intimate partner violence; data visualization, mapping, and sharing; suicide prevention; military families; rural strategies; and technology. (2010-2012)
  - Leads to Implementation Academies on Substance Use Disorders, Suicide Reduction, Workforce Development and Community Supports (2012-2018)

2009-10: NC Governor's Focus Group on Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families

- DHHS-DMH funds AHEC Training, Veterans Liaison Position
- NCODM Task Force on Behavioral Health Services for Military and Family

**PRIORITY Recommendation 5.7:** Improve translation and integration of services between military health, veterans, and state funded Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services systems.

The North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services should:

1) Continue the work of the Governor's Focus on Servicemembers, Veterans, and Their Families.
2011: NC Governor’s Focus Group on Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families

NC Medical Journal: Behavioral Health Needs of Military Personnel and their Families:
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) services
- Behavioral Health Conditions
- Access and Systems
- Resources and Training

Session Law 2011-185: “An Act to Ensure that the Behavioral Health Needs of Members of the Military, Veterans, and their Families are met”
- TBI Services
- NC National Guard Behavioral Health
- Community Support systems (DSM, DMA, DSS)
- Jobs
- Training, Care Integration, and Coordination

2012: NC Governor’s Focus Group on Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families

DHHS Report on SL 2011-185
- Training
- Services
- Personnel

Statewide Suicide Prevention and Reduction Plan

2013: NC Governor’s Focus Group on Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families:

- NC4ME: NC for Military Employment (with NC Department of Commerce)
- DHHS Response to SL 2011-185
  - Increase training for MH Professionals
  - Increase assistance for Veterans through DSS
  - Decrease Veterans’ Homelessness
2014: NC Governor’s Working Group on Veterans, Service Members, and their Families

- NCVets: Call Center, Website, Resource Guide (w/DHHS)
- Operation HOME: Ending Veterans Homelessness Task Force
- NC STRIVE (Student Transition Resource Initiative for Veterans Education)
- Women Veterans Summit and Expo 2014
- Veterans Benefit Action Centers (VBAC/VEAC by VARO)

- Executive Order 49 established the Governor’s Working Group on Veterans, Service Members, and their Families.
- NCGA PED 2014-10 recommended statutory establishment of Task Force from expanded Working Group.

2015: NC Governor’s Working Group on Veterans, Service Members, and their Families

- Veteran Support Specialist (VSS) training:
  - Duke Medical Center FTFC, GSK Foundation & NC DMVA VSS
- Rapid Results Institute & Operation HOME: Housing Bootcamp
  - ACCCH, NC DMVA, VA, NC, NC DMVA, NC DMVA, VA, NC DMVA
- First Statewide NC STRIVE conference at Joint Force Headquarters
- VA & NC DMVA, DMVA, NC National Guard: higher education
- Creation of NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA)
- NCGA VETS Resource Guide (w/ NC Commerce)

2016: NC Governor’s Working Group on Veterans, Service Members, and their Families

Operation HOME:
- Re-organized 15 Continuum of Care (13 regions)
- Begin “Pyramid” & 583 of Homeless Veterans in NC

NC VETS Resource Guide

Women Veterans Summit & Expo 2016

Statewide NC STRIVE Conference at Central Carolina Community College

*NC HOME & VETS: Veterans Unemployment decreased by 30% from 2013 (6.2% > 3.1%)

NC Service-Members (w/ Charlotte Bridge Home); Centier (w/ USO of NC)
2017: NC Governor’s Working Group on Veterans, Service Members, and their Families

- NC Practice Improvement Collaborative (NC PIC) to Reduce Veteran Suicide
  - 30% decrease, 2016 vs 2015, participated in a 5-day session to reduce Veteran Suicide
- VA/NC: Enhanced Care for Veterans (EVC) 3-day events assisted 14,000 veterans claims
- Operation HOPE: Landlord Risk Mitigation Fund Pilot Program - access, access, nc.gov/ewa
- UNC-TV: Vietnam: Healing, Healing Counseling
- VBA, USA, Jett Center, DMV, & NC Veterans; one-hour show on Veterans Affairs and resources at conclusion of VA Night Run
- NC DMVA: Regional conferences hosted by Wake Tech, Johnson C. Smith University, and Haywood Community College
- NC DMVA Resource Guide

2018: NC Governor’s Working Group on Veterans, Service Members, and their Families

- Women of Vets Summit & Expo 2018
- Charlotte – Mecklenburg Community Challenge & Crisis Interception Mapping
  (w/ SAMHSA SAMF 5TC)
- VISN – 19 MIRECC Rural Veterans Suicide Prevention (Caroline Co.)
- DMVA DMV Joint Training Conferences: VEBs, DUDPs, and VSO/VTSA
- UNC-TV “Situation Report” 13 Episodes (13 Mental Health Minutes w/ VA content)
- Governor’s Institute “Words to Live By” PSA campaign
- NC DMVA Resource Guide (w/ NC DMV)

2018 (continued)

- NC STRIVE regional conferences:
  - East Carolina University, Fayetteville Tech, UNC-Charlotte, & Foothills Higher Education Center at WPCC
- *NCCEH announces 14% Reduction in unsheltered Veterans Homelessness (2016) as a result of Rapid Results Institute “Rapid Re-Housing Bootcamp”.
  (DMH, NCCEH, DMVA, VA)
  (not seen in SC region or nationwide)
- Governor’s Working Group outreach:
  YouTube video & Facebook LIVESTREAMing boost attendance to over 6,000 monthly viewers
Jon Camp
CampSight Strategic Communications
Governor’s Institute Contractor

Where to find us online -
• https://facebook.com/govinst
• https://twitter.com/govinst
• https://youtube.com/user/governorsinstitute
• https://ncgwg.org
• Our Email Newsletter
Crystal Anderson
Field Operations Manager, NC DMVA
VSS & Rural Suicide Reduction

Veterans Support Specialist Certification Update 2018
NC Division of Veterans Affairs
Duke University's Evidence-Based Practice Implementation Center (Duke EPIC)
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Focus
This joint initiative between Duke University's Evidence-Based Practice Implementation Center (Duke EPIC), the N.C. Division of Veterans Affairs and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services will focus on increasing access to mental health services for veterans and military families.
Goals

- It will provide NC Veteran Service Officers (VSO) & Veteran Service Technicians (VST) as well as NC Service and Goodwill Veterans Representatives with enhanced training specifically developed for veterans and will certify these individuals as Veterans Support Specialists.

Goals Continued

- Improve one-on-one interaction with veterans by teaching relationship-building skills gleaned from the Peer Support methodology.
- Assist veteran service officers and technicians in engaging vets directly and “walk them through what can be a fragmented system.”
- Improve understanding of veteran needs: learn what challenges they face and which resources are in high demand.

In the End...

The ultimate goal is to increase the ability to serve veterans.

“One way to do that is to continue to build public-private partnerships so we all work hand-in-hand to serve our local veterans and military families.”

Marina Hilly, Assistant Secretary

DAMA, Director NCDAV
Graduates

- The program has currently graduated over 150 Certified Veterans Support Specialist.

---

Outcome

Participants have a new awareness of the red flags that may indicate suicidal ideation. This gives them the tools, skills, and means to potentially make a difference.

---

In Addition, the NCDVA is following the model of Together With Veterans in the following areas:

- Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR Training)
- Attending the Carteret County TVY community planning meetings.
Together With Veterans

TJV works with Veteran organizations and community partners to evaluate and improve their capacity to serve and support Veterans at risk of suicide. Community participants are supported in strengthening and coordinating their efforts to respond to local Veterans.

Program Components

- Community building – coordinating resources to better support Veterans
- Providing training on suicide prevention and Veteran/military culture for community members, Veterans, and primary care providers as needed
- Developing effective public health suicide prevention strategies for Veterans

Questions?
Crystal Anderson, Field Operations Manager, Division of Veteran Affairs
Crystal.Anderson@nhcaa.cc.gov
Over the past 5+ years:
- Reduction in Veterans dispensed an opioid from 19.94% to 9.40%
- Reduction in Veterans dispensed an opioid and BZD combination from 13.93% to 6.11%
- Increase in Veterans on long term opioid therapy and had a UOS within the past year from 38.68% to 89.41%
- Increase in Veterans dispensed less than 100 MEDD from 93.53% to 95.58%

While expected to see a 2.0% change, 95% expect to see a 10% change due to a reduction in chronic opioid use. Below 200 MEDD, with most of the patients reducing their narcotic quantities.
Tony Sowards
Oxford House of North Carolina

“Ask the Question”
Introductions and Updates

Next Meeting:
January 24, 2019

TBA