

Alliance Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 11



Mission Statement: The Alliance seeks to optimize the preparedness of behavioral health providers working to enhance the resilience, recovery and reintegration of Service members, Veterans, and their Family members and communities throughout the military, post-military, and family life cycles.

Current Research

Blount, T. H., Peterson, A. L., & Monson, C. M. (2016). A Case Study of Cognitive-Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for Combat-Related PTSD in a Same-Sex Military Couple. *Cognitive and Behavioral Practice*. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1077722916300335>

This case study explores the effectiveness of Cognitive-Behavioral Conjoint Therapy (CBCT)—which addresses co-occurring PTSD and relationship dysfunction—for use with a sexual minority military couple. The authors suggest that this is a particular area of need for this population as sexual minorities and military personnel are at elevated risk for development of PTSD. The study illustrates the use of CBCT for the treatment of deployment-related PTSD in a same-sex active-duty military couple. The study discusses the clinically meaningful changes in the service member's PTSD symptoms as indicated by PTSD Checklist (PCL), and self-reports by the couple following completion of 15 CBCT sessions. These changes were reported by the couple to be maintained at the 2-month follow-up. The authors suggest that these results indicate that CBCT for PTSD can have positive treatment outcomes with military same-sex couples. Additional work is needed to determine whether the treatment outcomes for this couple generalize to other military same-sex couples dealing with PTSD.

Supporting Veterans' Children through Transitions

Free, one-day, on-site trainings on a number of valuable topics are offered in locations near military bases across the U.S. and select European bases by the Military Child Education Coalition for educators, professionals, and parents serving youth. One training focuses on supporting children whose parents are facing separation from the military. Learning objectives for this training include exploring the academic and social-emotional implications for children and youth when their parents voluntarily or involuntarily transition from the military to civilian life, identifying needs for children and youth whose military-connected parents have died, been wounded, or have combat-related illnesses, and discovering resources and integrating positive strategies to support Veterans' children. For training schedule information click [here](#). For assistance with registration call (254) 953-1923 ext: 1110 or 1119 or email registration@militarychild.org.



Live Webinar Training: Prolonged Exposure Therapy

A half day webinar titled, *Prolonged Exposure Therapy: Putting Techniques into Practice*, is being offered by the Center for Deployment Psychology from 1-5pm EST on December 8, 2016. The webinar will review key theoretical concepts used in the development of Prolonged Exposure Therapy for PTSD and present more recent work expanding the understanding of exposure as a mechanism of change. The trainer will also describe specific problems encountered during in vivo and imaginal exposure, and suggest therapeutic responses designed to improve patient response and reduce symptoms. Key learning objectives will include: 1) identifying key psychological processes underlying exposure-based therapy; 2.) translating theoretical concepts underlying exposure therapy into patient friendly language; 3.) describing strategies to address poor or unexpected treatment response to in vivo exposure exercises; and 4.) identifying strategies to address sub-optimal engagement during imaginal exposure exercises. Free continuing education (CE) credits are available for the webinar. For CE questions, contact Bridget Schaub at bschaub@pesi.com. For registration questions, contact Ms. Kris Hannah at khanhah@deploymentpsych.org. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Webinar Training: Suicide Prevention

A half day webinar titled, *Suicide Prevention: Putting Techniques into Practice*, is being offered by the Center for Deployment Psychology from 1-5pm EST on January 11, 2016. The webinar will provide clinicians using CBT with Service members with an opportunity to review and expand on topics and techniques for treating suicidal thoughts and behavior. Suicide risk assessment skills and crisis intervention techniques will be discussed. Specific CBT for Suicide techniques will also be reviewed and practiced, including Relapse Prevention. Clinicians will have the opportunity to discuss complex cases throughout the training, providing an opportunity to highlight application of skills. Learning objectives for the training include: 1.) learning critical suicide risk assessment skills; 2.) examining cognitive-behavioral techniques in crisis intervention; 3.) practicing cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy techniques in the context of CBT for Suicide; and 4.) applying skills in Relapse Prevention for suicidal behavior. Free continuing education (CE) credits are available for the webinar. For specific CE questions, contact Bridget Schaub at bschaub@pesi.com. For registration questions, contact Ms. Kris Hannah at khannah@deploymentpsych.org. To register, click [here](#).



Conferences

[Council of College and Military Educators Symposium](#)

March 6-9, 2017

Atlanta, GA

[International Summit on Violence, Abuse & Trauma Information](#)

March 27 - 30, 2017, Honolulu Hawaii

[National Council for Behavioral Health](#)

April 3-5, 2017

Seattle, WA

Federal Job Opportunities

All federal jobs are posted on the USAJOBS.Gov website. Go to www.usajobs.gov & go to “Advanced Search” & under “Series Search” type in “0101”, “0180” or “0185”
NOTE: You can refine your search on the page to limit to VA, Army, Navy, Air Force etc. Tips for using the USAJOBS website can be found [here](#).

0101 Series Jobs: Covers jobs in the Social Sciences, Psychology, and Welfare Services. These jobs may or may not require licensures.

0180 Series Jobs: Covers jobs in the Psychology and Counseling Psychology. Primarily jobs for those with PhD or PsyD, LMFT, or other counseling degrees and licensures.

0185 Series Jobs: Covers jobs for Social Workers ONLY. Must have licensure (i.e. LCSW)

0602 Series: Covers jobs for Psychiatrists.

Non-Appropriated Fund (NAF) Positions

NAF employment is considered federal employment. However, the monies used to pay the salaries of NAF employees come from a different source. Civil service positions are paid for by money appropriated by Congress. NAF money, on the other hand, is self-generated by activities and services that use NAF employees. Visit the following links to apply for NAF positions.

Department of Veterans Affairs Jobs

VA Hiring Initiative: The VA is hiring behavioral health providers for positions at VA facilities across the country.

VA Jobs: The VA has created links for providers that make it easy to search for VA jobs in your profession. Please click on the links below in order to see all of the current VA job openings, as listed on the USAJOBS website, for your profession:

[Psychiatrists](#)

[Psychologists](#)

[Social Workers](#)

[Licensed Professional Counselors](#)

[Marriage and Family Therapists](#)

[Psychiatric Nurses](#)

Non-Federal Job Opportunities

The federal government also uses contractors to provide behavioral health services to Service members and others. The government contracts with private contracting companies, who will then hire the individual providers to provide the necessary services. Several contractors known to hire behavioral health providers are listed below, along with links to websites that list job opportunities for providers.

Zeiders Enterprises [Link to current job openings.](#)

SERCO - [Link to All SERCO Job Announcements](#)

Choctaw Enterprises - [Main link to all jobs](#)

SAIC Career Opportunities - [SAIC Job Openings](#)

Health Net - [Link to all job openings at Health Net](#)

Health e-Careers Network - [Main link to all jobs](#)

Magellan Health- [Main link to all jobs](#)

Do you have information for the December 2016 Newsletter?

Please send it to Dr. Angela Lamson at lamsona@ecu.edu by December 8, 2016