

Alliance Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 12



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.

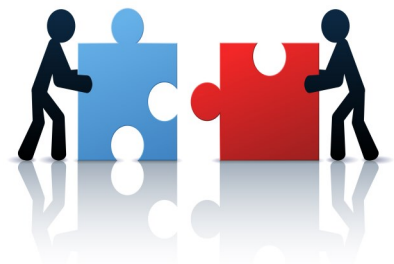
Current Research

Saltzman, W. R., Lester, P., Milburn, N., Woodward, K., & Stein, J. (2016). Pathways of risk and resilience: Impact of a family resilience program on active duty military parents. *Family Process*, 55(4), 633-646.

This study examined whether reductions in parent distress and improved functioning are mediated by improvements in family functioning. The study drew upon the implementation of the *Families Overcoming Under Stress (FOCUS) Family Resilience Program* at 14 active-duty military installations across the United States. The FOCUS program is a brief intervention designed to build on family strengths and enhance family resilience by bridging communication, developing effective parenting and family collaborative skills, and supporting the family's ability to flexibly respond to stress, trauma, and change while maintaining core functioning and care routines. This program consists of a sequence of 8–12 sessions that start with the parents, move to working with the children, and then culminate in three family sessions. The goal was to better understand the ways in which parental distress reverberates across military family systems and determine the pathways of program impact on parental distress. The findings indicated that families with more distressed military parents were more likely to sustain participation in the program, and reductions in distress among both military and civilian parents were facilitated by improvements in resilient family processes. The authors suggest that these findings are consistent with family systemic and resiliency models and provide support to preventive interventions designed to enhance family resiliency processes as an important part of comprehensive services for distressed military families.

Opportunity to Support Military Spouse Behavioral Health Professionals

Military spouses struggle to enter the mental health profession due to frequent moves and other lifestyle challenges. Give an Hour and the National Military Family Association, with the support of United Health Foundation, have teamed up to help ease spouses' transitions from graduate school through licensure to jobs in behavioral health. Their goal is to alleviate the national shortage of providers, and enhance the wellness of service members, veterans, and military families. Spouses can register for the *Military Spouse Mental Health Profession Network* and participate in the mentorship/supervisory component of the program. Those already established in the field can also help by offering to supervise or mentor a military spouse on his or her way to becoming a mental health professional. Click [here](#) for more information or to register.



Live Webinar Training: Prolonged Exposure Therapy

A half day webinar training titled, *Prolonged Exposure Therapy: Putting Techniques into Practice*, is being offered by Center for Deployment Psychology from 1-5pm EST on April 4, 2017. The webinar will review key theoretical concepts used in the development of *Prolonged Exposure Therapy* for PTSD and present more recent work that extends the understanding of exposure as a mechanism of change. The trainer will describe specific problems encountered during in vivo and imaginal exposure, and suggest therapeutic responses designed to improve patient response and reduce symptoms. Learning objectives for the webinar include: 1) identifying several 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 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 khannah@deploymentpsych.org. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Webinar: Literature Review on Resilience in the Military

A pre-recorded one and a half hour webinar titled, *Literature Review on Resilience in the Military*, is being offered by the Defense Center on Excellence. The webinar will focus on defining resilience in high-stress occupations, as well as predictors of, and effects on resilience. The webinar will also cover pre-deployment training informed by this evidence. At the conclusion of the webinar, participants will be able to: 1) define the distinct elements of resilience; 2) describe how adverse conditions affect resilience ; and 3) narrate the potential benefits of resilience in high-stress occupations. Presentation slides, a podcast of the webinar, and a transcript of the presentation are available [here](#).



Conferences

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

March 6-9, 2017

Atlanta, GA

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

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.

[USMC](#)

[ARMY](#)

[AIR FORCE](#)

[NAVY](#)

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 January 2017 Newsletter?

Please send it to Dr. Angela Lamson at lamsona@ecu.edu by January 8, 2017