**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**

Cox, D. W., Westwood, M. J., Hoover, S. M., Chan, E. K. H., Kivari, C. A., Dadson, M. R., & Zumbo, B. D. (2014). Evaluation of a group intervention for veterans who experienced military-related trauma. *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*, *64*(3), 367.

The study looked at male veterans, who had experienced a traumatic and distressing event during their time in the military. The veterans viewed the event as traumatic and distressing, which means the event did not necessarily have to be combat related. All participants in the study did not have active psychotic symptoms or suicidal intentions and were willing to abstain from alcohol and drug use during the time of the study. The Veteran Transition Program, a group based intervention, aids veterans in their transition to civilian life as well as reduce PTSS. The results of the study, showed that participants experienced a great reduction in their PTSS and depressive symptoms. The program had no drop outs and suggests this may be because of their retreat style group intervention that can help veterans feel the military cohesion they experienced while serving.

# Defense Centers for Excellence For Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury

The Defense Centers for Excellence has many educational opportunities for civilian and military providers that work with military populations. There are online educational opportunities that are free of charge, some may offer Continuing Education credits, about Traumatic Brain Injury. There is also links to the Deployment Health Clinical Center educational opportunities for a variety of military providers; such as nurses, psychologists, social workers, and researchers. Additionally, the website offers webinars twice a month on varying topics open to the public and some webinars may even offer CE credits. The website also has resources for military service members, family members and veterans.



# **Resources for Military Families**

#### Military Kids Connect

The Military Kids Connect website is a website that provides military children with age appropriate resources to help them with the unique challenges they may experience. The website provides them with resources to help with challenges such as deployments and

moving and changing schools. The website has monitored online forums for children to connect with other military children. Additionally, the website provides activities, games, and videos that will help their unique stresses and challenges they can experience as children of a military family.

#### The National Military Family Organization

Non-profit organization that believes that provides military families with programs and resources to help with military life. The organization has an array of programs and associations that focus on important issues in military families. Additionally, the organization also provides support to widows and widowers.

Certificate in Military Veteran's Behavioral Health
Widener University in Chester, PA is offering a 3 weekend

and 6 day event that will lead to a certificate in Military Veteran's Behavioral Health along with 40 CE hrs approved by American Psychological Association. For more information go to: mvbh2014.eventbrite.com



# Conferences

American Psychological Association
Convention
August 7-10
Washington, D.C.

The Warrior's Journey
Exploring Ethics, Morality, and Healing In
Military Service and War
August 15, 2014
Atlanta. GA

Psychological Health and Resilience Summit

In-person and Virtual Training Sept. 17-19, 2014 Defense Health Headquarters 7700 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA

2014 Annual AAFMT Conference October 16-19, 2014 Milwaukee, WI

2014 NCFR Annual Conference Families at the Nexus of Global Change November 19, 2014 - November 22, 2014 Baltimore, Maryland

### **Federal Job Opportunities**

All federal jobs are posted on the USAJOBS.Gov website. Go to <a href="www.usajobs.gov">www.usajobs.gov</a> & 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. A few jobs are highlighted below.

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

Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (ER)

Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor

**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.

Research Psychologist (Recent Graduate)

Psychologist - Psychosocial Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (PRRTP)

0185 Series Jobs: Covers jobs for Social Workers ONLY. Must have

licensure (i.e. LCSW)

Social Worker, PACT Clinical Medical Social Worker

Social Worker Psychiatric Liaison

Social Worker / Substance Abuse Treatment Program Coordinator

**0602 Series**: Covers jobs for Psychiatrists.

Associate Chief of Staff for Mental Health Service

Chief, Mental Health

0610 Series: Covers jobs for Psychiatric Nurses.

Registered Nurse - (Inpatient Psychiatric Unit 5CB) Part Time

Registered Nurse - PACT Mental Health

# **Department of Veterans Affairs Jobs**

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

<u>VA Jobs</u>: 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** 

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**Social Workers** 

<u>Licensed Professional Counselors</u>

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

Do you have information for the August 2014 Newsletter?

Please send it to Dr. Angela Lamson by August 10, 2014 lamsona@ecu.edu