Behavioral Health is Essential To Health

Prevention Works

Treatment is Effective

People Recover
What’s New-Seizing Opportunities for Community Partnerships

A. Kathryn Power, M.Ed.,
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Rory M. Brosius, M.S.W.,
Joining Forces Initiative,
Office of the First Lady, Executive Office of the President

Brigadier General Loree K. Sutton, USA, Ret., M.D.,
Mayor's Office of Veterans' Affairs, New York City

March 24, 2016
12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. (ET)
A. Kathryn Power, M.Ed.
SAMHSA Regional Administrator, Region 1, Senior Lead for the Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Population Focus
SAMHSA’s Vision

SAMHSA provides leadership and devotes its resources, including programs, policies, information and data, contracts and grants, to help the United States act on the knowledge that:

• Behavioral Health is essential to health
• Prevention works
• Treatment is effective
• People recover from mental and substance use disorders
Why We Are Here Today

- Community partnerships play a pivotal role in increasing access to behavioral health supports and best practices for service members, veterans, and their families (SMVF)
- Statistics alone cannot capture what services and supports will be needed in the coming years
  - 22 veterans per day die by suicide
  - 17 of those 22 never received mental health treatment or connected with the VA
- Need more interagency collaboration and community partnerships

The Current Picture “The Lag”

Post-Deployment Delays in Treatment Timeline

- Deployment
- 2+ Years Post Deployment
  - First behavioral health assessment diagnosis
- 3 Years Post Deployment
  - 75% with behavioral health diagnosis not utilizing adequate services
- 7.5 Years Post Initial Treatment Session
  - Veteran engaging in minimally adequate behavioral health treatment

Risks of Treatment Delay
- Justice-involvement
- Substance use disorders
- Healthcare problems
- Homelessness
- Suicide
- Unemployment

SAMHSA
Since 2001, more than 2.6 million Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserves have deployed to Iraq (OIF) and Afghanistan (OEF). From 2014 to 2020, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) anticipates that over 1 million service members will join the 2.3 million veterans who have already left the military since September 11, 2001.

As of 2015, over 21 million veterans are living in the U.S. but only 9 million veterans are enrolled in the VA health care system. Over 1.1 million spouses, parents, and friends are caring for injured and disabled veterans who have served since September 11, 2001.

1. Institute of Medicine. (2012). Treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Military and Veteran Populations: Initial Assessment
Executive Order 13625 –
Improving Access to Mental Health Services for Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families

- Directs the U.S. Departments of Defense (DoD), VA, and Health and Human Services (HHS), in coordination with other federal agencies, to take steps to ensure that SMVF receive needed mental health and substance use services
- Establishes and directs the Interagency Task Force on Military and Veterans Mental Health (ITF) to identify recommendations and expand community partnerships
- Focuses on reducing barriers, increasing access, and expanding research
Priority areas of focus:

1. Suicide prevention
2. National Research Action Plan (NRAP) initiatives
3. Data collection tracking behavioral health service utilization and outcomes
4. Community partnerships
5. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender populations
6. Substance use disorders
7. Military sexual assault, military sexual harassment, and military sexual trauma
8. Workforce development
Some of the pressing behavioral health needs of SMVF

• Suicide prevention
• Substance use disorders
• Supports for military families
• Homelessness
• Justice-involvement
• Unemployment
SAMHSA’s SMVF TA Center Policy Academy Teams (47 states, 4 territories, and the District of Columbia)
• Working with governors and interagency leaders to meet the challenge
• Developing joint military and civilian behavioral health strategic plans
• Supporting the implementation of best practices
• Ensuring a whole government and community approach
2016 Policy Academies
SAMHSA’s Interagency Leadership Initiative

Providing 40 site visits including:
  • Governor’s leadership briefings
  • Support to update state/territory strategic plans

Establishing interagency champions to:
  • Integrate SMVF behavioral health with “whole health”
  • Increase peer and other recovery supports in the community
  • Increase access to the VA
  • Increase choices: partnering with the community
The Future: Where are We Going?

- SMVF behavioral health needs will continue to grow
- A quality behavioral health system for SMVF cannot be accomplished by a few organizations
  - *No one agency can do this alone*
  - *All agencies, military and civilian, must continue to focus on this population*
  - *Interagency and community partnerships are critical!*
Seizing Partnership Opportunities

Community Providers

Factors Contributing to Veterans Seeking Assistance from Community Providers

80% of veterans have healthcare coverage outside of the VA

Veterans’ preference

Barriers to accessing VA services (eligibility and proximity of services)

Strategies are needed in areas such as:

• Workforce development
  • Military culture training
  • Expansion of peer support
  • Support for SMVF entering the workforce
• Substance use disorders
• Suicide prevention
• Justice-involvement
This is a call to action

• Foster one connected behavioral health system of military and civilian services
• Pursue approaches that increase military and civilian community partnerships
• Develop concrete, realistic action items
• Interagency and community partnerships are critical
Joining Forces Initiative

Rory M. Brosius, M.S.W.
Deputy Director, Joining Forces Initiative
Office of the First Lady, Executive Office of the President
SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS THAT SUPPORT THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OF SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

Rory Brosius, Deputy Director of Joining Forces Office of the First Lady of the United States
“But as we’ve said all along, this can’t be the work of government alone. Something else has been true throughout our history: Our military — and our military families — can’t be the only ones bearing the burden of our security. The United States of America is strongest — and as Americans, we are at our best — when we remember our obligations to each other. When we remember that the price of freedom cannot simply be paid by a select few. When we embrace our responsibilities to each other, especially those who serve and sacrifice in our name.”

- President Obama at the Launch of Joining Forces, April 2011
JOINING FORCES WORKS HAND IN HAND WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS TO ENSURE THAT SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO SUCCEED THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES.
**The Goal**: for America’s health care providers to serve our nation’s veterans and military families as well as they have served us. No matter where a veteran or military family member turns for care, the current and future health care providers in literally every community in this nation should be prepared to effectively address veteran and military families’ unique health care needs with respect, understanding and impact.
We call it Joining Forces for a very special reason. This campaign is about all of us, all of us joining together, as Americans, to give back to the extraordinary military families who serve and sacrifice so much, every day, so that we can live in freedom and security. Joining Forces is a challenge to every segment of American society to take action, to make a real commitment to supporting and engaging these families.

-First Lady Michelle Obama
JOINING FORCES
TAKING ACTION TO SERVE AMERICA’S MILITARY FAMILIES
JOININGFORCES.GOV
Mayor's Office of Veterans' Affairs
New York City

Brigadier General Loree K. Sutton, USA, Ret., M.D.
Commissioner of Mayor's Office of Veterans' Affairs
New York City
Briefing Agenda

• **ThriveNYC Overview**
  - Five Stops Along the Roadmap
  - Six Guiding Principles
  - New Initiatives

• **Focus on VetsThriveNYC**
  - Community Framework
  - Public-Private Partnerships
  - ‘Core 4’ Integrative Health Model
  - Summary / Consortium Goals
MENTAL HEALTH ROADMAP

#THRIVENYC
“We want New York City to be a place where people can live their lives to the fullest,” said First Lady Chirlane McCray.

“ThriveNYC is about more services, better services and easier access to services. It’s a plan of action that shows us how to treat mental illness – and also promote mental health.”
FIVE STOPS ALONG THE ROADMAP

1. Quantify NYC’s Mental Health Challenge

2. Document the Administration’s Response

3. Propose a Broad Array of Solutions

4. Set a Long-Term Agenda for Transformational System Change

5. Share New Tools that Improve Awareness and Expand Access
SIX GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Change Culture
- Act Early
- Close Treatment Gaps
- Partner With Communities
- Use Data Better
- Position Government to Lead
New Initiatives

- Mental Health First Aid
- Public Engagement Campaign
- Spreading Social-Emotional Learning
- Buprenorphine Prescriber Training and Support
- CUNY Mental Health Digital Platform
- School Mental Health Services
- Maternal Depression Collaborative
- Mental Health Innovation Lab
- Mental Health Virtual Learning Center
- Workforce Development Summit
- Mental Health Corps
- Crisis and Access Hotline and Text Capacity
- Expansion of Trained Peer Specialists
- Veterans Outreach Team
- Veterans Holistic Treatment
- Geriatric Services Volunteer Visiting Program
**Top-Tier Strategic Priorities**

- Ending Veteran Homelessness
- *Cultivating Health, Healing & Wholeness*
- Connecting Veterans & Families with NYC Careers, Resources, Care & Services

**NYC Veteran ‘Core 4’ Consortium***

C1 – Culture: Education, Engagement & Arts
C2 – Connection: Peer Social Support
C3 – Community: Holistic Services
C4 – Clinical: Treatment & Medical Care

*Steering Team/Consortium Partners: TBA*

**Program Evaluation**

- Partner with leading academic institutions to evaluate efficacy & sustainability of the ‘CORE 4’ integrative health model

---

**Stakeholder Network**

- Federal Partners
- NY State Partners
- NYC Agency Partners
- Veterans, Family Members & VSOs
- Public-Private Partnerships

**Veteran/Family Outreach**

- Establish trust with veterans
- Ensure access to ’CORE 4’
- Conduct ongoing focus groups
- Engage in City-wide campaign
**VetsThriveNYC:**
‘Community is the Strongest Medicine’

‘**CORE 4’ Integrative Health Model**

- **C4 - Clinical**
  - Treatment

- **C3 - Community**
  - Holistic Services

- **C2 - Connection**
  - Peer Social Support

- **C1 - Culture**
  - Education, Engagement & Arts

Strength-based Foundation of Growth, Resilience, Integrity and Trust (GRIT)
‘Core 4’ Consortium Goals

• Execute action plan to foster a foundation of growth, resilience, integrity and trust for veterans and their families

• Connect veterans, their loved ones, and survivors to services in the context of a supportive community

• Engage veteran strengths and support opportunities for continued leadership and community service

• Demonstrate that veterans and their families truly are our country’s leading natural renewable resource!
Resources

• NYC Mental Health Road Map: nyc.gov/thrivenyc
• Joining Forces: joiningforces.gov
• American Academy of Nursing: www.aannet.org
• American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT): www.aamft.org
• American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM): www.aacom.org
Resources (cont’d)

- American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP): www.aanp.org
- American Medical Association (AMA): www.ama-assn.org/ama
- American Nurses Association (ANA): www.nursingworld.org
- American Nurses Foundation (ANF): www.anfonline.org
- American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA): www.apna.org
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC): www.aamc.org
- Center for Deployment Psychology: www.deploymentpsych.org
- Give an Hour: www.giveanhour.org/
- National Association of Social Workers (NASW): www.socialworkers.org