CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this conference, participants will be able to:

1. Describe and discuss strategies to strengthen cross-agency collaboration to enhance behavioral health care systems serving Service Members, Veterans, and their Families;
2. Identify at least two best practices in public health approaches to trauma-informed and suicide prevention services;
3. Describe key issues related to the dynamics of military families and deployment;
4. Identify at least two best practices that promote recovery, resiliency, and readiness in one of the following areas: Outreach in Rural Communities; Peer-to-Peer Models; Innovative Approaches for Employment; Homelessness Prevention; and Community Integration;
5. Apply an understanding of Military Culture to improve at least one service currently provided in their State, Territory, or Tribe; and
6. Identify at least three actions steps to be taken upon the return home, based on information learned and contacts made at the conference.

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011 – DAY 1

7:30 a.m.  
Registration

8:30 – 9:15 a.m.  
Chesapeake

Opening Session: Welcome and Call to Action

Honoring Their Sacrifice: Promoting Recovery, Resilience, and Readiness for Service Members, Veterans, and Families

A. Kathryn Power, MEd, SAMHSA

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.  
Chesapeake

Introductions and Expectations of the Day

Donna Aligata, SAMHSA’s support of behavioral health systems serving service members, veterans, and their families newly referred to as SAMHSA’s Military Families Strategic Initiative - Service Systems Development Program (SSSDP)
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.  Chesapeake  
**Cultivating Best Practices**  
**Moderator:** Nicholas Meyer, SAMHSA’s Military Families Initiative - SSSDP

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| **Trauma-Informed Services** | Col Christopher Robinson, PhD  
Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) |
| **Exemplary Approaches to Suicide Prevention** | Katie Wootten, MPH  
Suicide Prevention Resource Center |

**Q&A and Audience Dialogue**

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.  BREAK

10:45 – 12:00 p.m.  Chesapeake  
**Plenary Panel: Military Families**  
**Moderator:** Jordanna Mallach, SAMHSA’s Military Families Initiative - SSSDP

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| **Shifting Dynamics of a Military Family** | Barbara Cohoon, PhD, RN  
National Military Families Association |
| **Children and Deployment** | Lynette Pullmann, PhD  
U.S. Army Medical Command |

**Q&A and Audience Dialogue**

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.  LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.  Harbor IA  
**Best Practices for Outreach and Engagement in Rural Communities**  
**Moderator:** Vladimir Nacev, PhD, ABPP, DCoE

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| **Outreach and Engagement for Hard-to-Reach Populations** | MSG Stephanie Weaver  
National Guard Counterdrug Liaison to SAMHSA |

The National Guard’s Counter Drug prevention programs have been successful with the implementation of outreach and engagement in rural communities. This presentation will provide lessons learned from this national model that can be applied in other settings.
Using Technology for Outreach and Knowledge Transfer
Anita Brown, PhD
National Center for Telehealth and Technology [T2]

Overcoming geographic challenges for improving outreach to Service Members, Veterans, and Families (SMVF) in diverse communities can be addressed with creativity and recent innovations. Exploring partnerships and promising practices in the use of technology offers new possibilities for improving outreach and engagement to SMVF in rural communities.

State Lessons Learned: North Carolina
John Harris, MSW
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Q&A and Audience Dialogue

Chesapeake Peer-to-Peer Models
Moderator: Matthew Aumen, National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc. (NASADAD)

Community-Based Peer Models
Moe Armstrong, MBA, MA, CPS
Vet-to-Vet

Behavioral health systems are using peer recovery support services and Service Members with lived experience to help others. This session will present information about the Vet to Vet program and the “Each One, Reach One, Teach One” model to broaden knowledge regarding integrating peer support, mentoring, and social inclusion models within the behavioral health system.

Design and Implementation of Peer Models
Daniel O’Brien-Mazza, MS
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration

The VA has been successful with peer support service programs for some time. This session will include information for identifying next steps for training, implementing, and funding the infrastructure required to advance peer recovery support strategies.

State Lessons Learned: Maine Embedded Mentor Program
Gretchen Breyller-Hegeman, PhD
Maine Army National Guard

Q&A and Audience Dialogue
Harbor IB

Innovative Approaches for Employment

Moderator: Donna Aligata, SAMHSA’s Military Families Initiative - SSSDP

Community Partnerships and Employment Strategies

Laurie Harkness, PhD
VA Connecticut Healthcare System

Integrated community-based practice models using public and private approaches work when it comes to employment programs for SMVF. The VA Connecticut Healthcare System’s Errera Community Care Center has enhanced employment options by working in partnership with local businesses and peers to support recovery, resiliency, and readiness.

Best Practices in SMVF Employment Strategies

Gary Shaheen, MPA
Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University

This session will focus on best practices in employment strategies for SMVF. Models to increase gainful employment and educational opportunities will be identified, including the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities.

State Lessons Learned: Arizona

Nicola Winkel, MPA
Coalition for Military Families

Q&A and Audience Dialogue

Harbor IIB


Moderator: Greg Hinrichsen, PhD, Department of Veterans Affairs

Approaches to Homelessness Prevention

Deborah Dennis, MA
Policy Research Associates

The presenter will share what has been learned about critical points of intervention to prevent homelessness, including housing programs, such as HUD VASH, that offer supportive services; efforts to increase access to SSI and SSDI; and eviction prevention.

State Lessons Learned: Washington

Donald Lachman
WA State Dept of Veterans Affairs

Q&A and Audience Dialogue
3:30 – 3:45 p.m. BREAK

3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Chesapeake

Enhancing Community Integration: Effective Practices and Partnerships
Moderator: Roy Praschil, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)

Community Integration
Jeannie Campbell
The National Council for Community Behavioral Health Care

Public, Private, and Community Business Partnerships
Nathan Herman
JP Morgan Chase and Company

Q&A and Audience Dialogue

5:00 p.m. Wrap-up and Adjourn

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2011 – DAY 2

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Chesapeake

Re-cap of Day 1 and Expectations for Day 2
Donna Aligata, SAMHSA’s Military Families Initiative - SSSDP

8:45 – 10:30 a.m. Chesapeake

Roundtable Discussion Groups

Topics to include:
- Military Culture
- Outreach to National Guard and Reserve Components
- Outreach to Tribal Communities
- Partnerships and Collaboration

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. BREAK
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Chesapeake

**What will you take home? Applying Lessons Learned**

*Facilitators:* Henry J. Steadman, PhD, SAMHSA’s Military Families Initiative - SSSDP  
Donna Aligata, SAMHSA’s Military Families Initiative - SSSDP  
Jody Zabel, MA, SAMHSA’s Military Families Initiative - SSSDP

- Military Culture
- What is Needed to Be Successful
- Messages to Bring Home
- Integrating Lessons Learned
- Technical Assistance
- Using Technology and Sharing Information

*Q&A and Audience Dialogue*

11:45 a.m. Chesapeake

**Closing Remarks and Wrap-up,**

CAPT Maria Dinger, RN, BSN, MS, SAMHSA  
Eileen Zeller, MPH, SAMHSA

12:00 p.m. Adjourn