Military Social Work & Behavioral Health Conference
July 21 - 24, 2020

Interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure innovative and effective systems of care
Welcome

On behalf of the Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, and our collaborating partners at the Department of Defense and the Veterans Health Administration, we welcome you to the 2020 Military Social Work & Behavioral Health Conference. This year, we gather as a collaborative of clinicians, researchers, and military and veteran service organizations committed to sharing and learning from clinical and research experts about how to best address the mental and behavioral health needs of our country’s service members, veterans, caregivers and family members.

In the upcoming days, speakers will address the theme of *interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure innovative and effective systems of care* to promote enhanced wellness and recovery from psychological and physical injuries.

The conference will offer an opportunity for cross-sector dialogue that can spur increased collaboration among community-based, DoD, and VA social workers and behavioral health providers.
Thank You to Our Conference Sponsors!

This event was made possible through the generous support of The University of Texas System’s Defense and Veteran Health Collaborative (DVHC), an initiative focused on strengthening educational partnerships with the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

We are very thankful to our many sponsors who have allowed us to plan for a great event that will support cross-sector dialogue to improve how we care for our service members, veterans, families and caregivers.

The University of Texas System
Fourteen Institutions. Unlimited Possibilities.

Cohen Veterans Network

San Antonio Behavioral Healthcare Hospital

Heartland Behavioral Health

Mission Resiliency

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program

Meridell Achievement Center

Focus Marines Foundation

Perimeter Healthcare Residential Services
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair

Elisa Borah, MSW, PhD
Director, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin
Dr. Borah conducts research to identify effective programming and supports for military members, veterans, spouses and their families. She leads multiple programs focusing on how peer support can improve veterans’ and veteran spouses’ quality of life and improved mental health.

Executive Team

Molly Platz, LMSW
Program Manager, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin

COL Nathan Keller, LCSW, PhD
Director, Student Counseling Center, Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD

Jennifer Silva, LCSW-S
Assistant Chief of Social Work Services, Department of Veteran Affairs, Tennessee Valley Healthcare System

Committee Members

David Arnold, MA
Coordinator, Defense and Veteran Health Consortium, Dell Medical School, The University of Texas at Austin

Brooke Fina, LCSW, BCD
Associate Professor, Clinical Social Worker, STRONG STAR Consortium Training Initiative, UT Health San Antonio

Kari Fletcher, MSW, PhD, LICSW
MSW Program Director & Area of Emphasis in Military Practice (AEMP) Coordinator, University of St. Thomas

LTC Lataya Hawkins, LCSW, BCD
PhD. Student, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin

COL Jill Henderson
Director, U.S. Army-University of Kentucky Master of Social Work Program, Fort Sam Houston

Fanita Jackson-Norman, LCSW
Care Management Program Coordinator, National Transition & Care Management Team, Department of Veteran Affairs Central Office

Lt. Col. Erika King, LCSW, PhD
Program & Policy Evaluation Branch Chief, Mental Health Division, Air Force Medical Readiness Agency

Rachele Misiti, LCSW-S
Assistant Chief, Social Work Service | Site Lead, Integrated Case Management, Central Texas VA Healthcare System

Jeffrey Moe, MA, LCSW
Student Veteran Coordinator, Central Texas VA Health Care System, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin

Hannah O’Brien, MSSW
Program Manager, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin

LTC Martha (Marti) A. Stany, LCSW, MS
Chief, Division of Behavioral Health Sciences, U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, JBSA-Ft Sam Houston, TX

Steve Steffensen, MD
Chief of the Learning Health System, Dell Medical School, The University of Texas at Austin

Eugenia Weiss, PsyD, MSW, MA
Clinical Professor, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, University of Southern California

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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Assistant Chief of Social Work Services, Department of Veteran Affairs, Tennessee Valley Healthcare System

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July 21 - July 24, 2020
CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

After the conference, you will be emailed a survey to evaluate each session you attended, as well as general questions about the conference. Upon completion, you will be emailed a downloadable CEU / CME certificate, reflecting those hours you completed.

CEUs
Social Work, LPC, LMFT: Up to 17.5 CEUs can be earned by Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors, and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. Please note that 1 hour = 1 CEU. Complaints about this program may be made to TSBSWE, 1100 W. 49th St., Austin, TX 78756 or 800-232-3162. Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners: http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/socialwork/. Licensed psychologists may seek approval from the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists as professional development hours are not pre-approved by the Board.

CMEs
Doctors of Medicine, Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine: Up to 17.5 CMEs can be earned by practicing Doctors of Medicine (MD) and Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DO). Nurse Practitioners (NP), Physician Assistants (PA) and other healthcare providers may seek approval from their healthcare provider’s board, as professional development hours are not pre-approved.

The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School designates this internet live course for a maximum of 17.50 AMA PRA Category 1Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The presentation, Reminded: Ethics in Behavioral Health, has been designated by The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School for 1.00 credit(s) of education in medical ethics and/or professional responsibility.

Conference Objectives

1. Recognize and reduce access to barriers to health care access faced by military/veteran patients and their families.
2. Identify available Department of Defense (DOD) and Veterans Health Administration (VHA) healthcare programs and community initiatives that support military/veteran patients and families.
3. Apply the latest research findings in military/veteran care to practice.
4. Improve cultural competency when providing care to military-connected populations.
5. Provide coordinated interprofessional care to address the needs of military/veteran patients and their families.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Conference Location
The conference will take place on Zoom. If you are not already familiar with this platform, it is recommended that you take some time to familiarize yourself with how the Zoom controls and features work beforehand. Some organizations may not be able to access Zoom on work issued computers. In this case, downloading the smartphone Zoom app can provide you with access to certain features. Accessing the conference with a computer is recommended as the phone screen is small, and may not allow you to see presentations, or participate in some of the engagement opportunities. If you determine that you cannot access Zoom on your work computer, we recommend using a personal device (computer or phone).

Joining the Conference
To join the conference, you must click on the below link, or paste it into your browser, and enter the password when prompted. Please plan to join a few minutes prior to the listed start time of the conference (or the session(s)) you’re planning to attend, to account for any delays or slight scheduling shifts that may arise. The following information will be valid for each day of the main conference (Tues, 7/21 - Fri, 7/24).

- **Conference Link:**
  
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89165103632?pwd=aXILTHZkaUxtc1ZZSitvVWlvU3Awdz09

- **Password:** conference
- **Meeting ID:** 891 6510 3632
- **Telephone:** Dial by your location...
  +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
  +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
  +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
  +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
  +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
  +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
- **Call-In Password:** 8187007212
- **Find your local number:**
  https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdj4DoczAr

Downloading Zoom

*If you do not already have a Zoom account:* Attendees should be able to join without a preexisting Zoom account. However, if you are prompted to create an account, you can do so by visiting zoom.us.

*If you do currently have a Zoom account:* Please be sure to update all of your Zoom applications to version 5.0 or higher. After May 30, 2020, all Zoom applications on older versions will receive a forced upgrade when trying to join meetings as GCM Encryption will be fully enabled across the Zoom platform. Update your Zoom account by visiting zoom.us/support/download.

Session Attendance Verification
Conference attendees seeking continuing education credits (CMEs/CEUs selected upon registration), must fill out the evaluation form that will be sent out after the last day of the conference. Since conference planners are not able to take attendance for each session, all participants are required to honestly select the sessions they attended, and fill out the corresponding evaluation questions. Upon submission, attendees will be emailed a downloadable certificate, reflecting the credit hours earned.

Engagement Opportunities
Conference planners have integrated opportunities for engagement throughout the conference. Attendees will be asked polling questions to highlight demographics, areas of focus, and interest of participants. In addition, there will be breakout sessions built into the schedule, where attendees can connect, chat, and participate in broader discussions and networking. We will also offer Happy Hour break out rooms at the end Days 1 and 2 of the conference (Tues, 7/21 and Wed, 7/22).
Zoom Tips & Tricks

Please make note of the following Zoom tips and tricks to ensure a seamless experience throughout this virtual conference.

1. **Video/Audio:** During presentations you will be muted and video will be turned off (please don’t turn on manually unless instructed to do so by the moderator).

2. **Presentation View:** All participants have a few options for how to view presentations on their screen. At the top right of your screen, you will see an option for either ‘Speaker View’ or ‘Gallery View.’ Conference staff recommends that all participants have selected ‘Speaker View’ as the default setting.

3. **Display Name:** Each time you log on, be sure that your name is reflected on your screen. You can do this by hovering over your name and clicking the three dots on the top right of your icon. Hit ‘Rename’ in the drop-down and type in your name if it isn’t already reflected.

4. **Questions:** All attendees will be able to pose questions throughout the conference through the chat feature. Attendees can click the ‘Chat’ option at the bottom of their screen, and type their questions into the chat box, which will pop up to the right of their screen.
Crisis Response Planning (CRP) for Suicide Prevention

The Crisis Response Plan (CRP) is a brief intervention used to reduce suicide risk for individuals experiencing crisis. CRPs have been shown in clinical research to be effective as stand-alone interventions, and within treatment for suicide risk (Bryan et al., 2017; Rudd et al., 2015), and they are used clinically within a variety of settings. This workshop is designed to enhance individuals’ knowledge about crisis response planning for managing acute suicide risk, and to increase their ability to confidently and competently administer this intervention with at-risk individuals.

The first half of the workshop provides didactic knowledge about suicide, the development of the crisis response plan intervention, and its empirical support, all of which are designed to increase knowledge. The second half of the workshop includes clinical demonstrations by the instructor and skills practice by attendees, which are designed for individuals to acquire skill competency.

About the Trainer

Brooke Fina, LCSW, BCD
Director of Training, PE Trainer & Consultant, Associate Professor, Clinical Social Worker, STRONG STAR Consortium Training Initiative, UT Health San Antonio

Brooke A. Fina is an Associate Professor and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine at UT Health San Antonio. She serves as the Suicide Risk Advisor for the STRONG STAR Consortium and Consortium to Alleviate PTSD. She is a trainer in crisis response planning for suicide prevention. Ms. Fina oversees the development, implementation, and evaluation of all training curriculum within the STRONG STAR Training Initiative as the Director of Training.

Conference Sponsor Spotlight

We provide compassionate in-patient and outpatient treatment and prevention services for teens and adults challenged by substance use disorders and related mental health conditions. Each year, we help thousands of men, women, and adolescents overcome drug and alcohol addiction and find recovery in order to lead productive, drug-free lives.

For more information, visit phoenixhousebx.org
Social Workers and Our Heroes

Barry Adams, PhD, CAPT, MSC, USN, LCSW
Commanding Officer, Navy Medicine Professional Development Center (NMPDC), Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Dr. Barry D. Adams, a West Texas native, earned his Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW) degree from the University of Texas, Arlington (1987) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore (2006). He currently serves as Commanding Officer, at the Navy Medicine Professional Development Center, in Bethesda, Maryland.

In a civilian and military career spanning over 30 years, Dr. Adams has served as a Navy Social Work Officer for over 25 years. Throughout his career, Adams established himself as an expert in child abuse and domestic violence, residential mental health treatment for adolescents, private psychotherapy practice, combat stress control, suicide, and performance under pressure. Dr. Adams was personally appointed by the Deputy Surgeon General of the Navy to serve as the first social worker officer-in-charge of Navy Mobile Care Team FIVE, Afghanistan. From 2012 to 2013, Adams served the Surgeon General and Navy Medicine as the subject matter expert on suicide prevention, where he directed the Surgeon General’s 2012 review of Navy Medicine personnel suicides. He was the first social worker to graduate from the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute and earn wings as a Naval Aerospace Experimental Psychologist, and recognized as a NASW Pioneer in 2016. Dr. Adams specializes in performance under pressure, leader development, and strategic team development.

Dr. Adams is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Diplomate in Clinical Social Work (DCSW), Aerospace Experimental Psychologist (AEP), Naval Aviation Safety Officer (ASO), designated qualified Operational Risk Management (ORM) instructor, and a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). He was awarded the NASW Social Work Pioneer award (2016).

His personal awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4), the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal (3), the Afghanistan Campaign Medal (with campaign star), the NATO ISAF medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal (bronze star) and various Navy/Marine Corps and Joint unit commendations.

Dr. Adams is married to Starla Ann McCormack of Graham, TX and the couple share five children and five grandchildren.

Conference Sponsor Spotlight

Our vision is to build a fully integrated behavioral healthcare system based on state-of-the art, evidence-based treatment protocols resulting in the best possible outcomes for our patients.
# Schedule

**Day 1 | July 21, 2020**

## Innovations in Healthcare

*This schedule is based on the Central Daylight Time (CDT) zone*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
<td>Elisa Borah, PhD, <em>Institute for Military and Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:10</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Address:</strong> Social Workers and Our Heroes</td>
<td>CAPT Barry Adams, PhD, MSC, USN, LCSW, <em>Navy Medicine Professional Development Center (NMPDC), Walter Reed National Military Medical Center</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Integrative Approaches to Chronic Headache in the Veteran Population</td>
<td>Karen Williams, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, <em>Headache Center of Excellence, Veterans Health Care System, Richmond, VA</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>TBI: A conceptual model for understanding and treating the consequences of war</td>
<td>Scot D. Engel, PsyD, <em>Fort Hood Intrepid Spirit Center</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Insomnia and Nightmares: Prevalence and treatment among service members</td>
<td>Kristi Pruiksma, PhD, <em>UT Health San Antonio</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Insomnia and Suicide: Two persistent problems of significant proportion in the Army</td>
<td>MAJ Ian Lynch, PsyD, <em>4th Security Force Assistance Brigade (SFAB)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>Stop Veteran Suicide: A wellness approach</td>
<td>Jill Palmer, DSW, LCSW, <em>Endeavors, San Antonio, TX</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:15</td>
<td>Using Effective Suicide Prevention and Recovery Strategies in Military Behavioral Health</td>
<td>Kate Comtois, PhD, MPH, <em>University of Washington; Harborview Psychotherapy Clinic</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:45</td>
<td>STRONG STAR and the Consortium to Alleviate PTSD: Shaping the future of combat-related PTSD</td>
<td>Lt. Col. (ret) Alan Peterson, PhD, ABPP, <em>UT Health San Antonio</em></td>
</tr>
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<td>14:15</td>
<td>Increasing Access to Evidence-Based Treatments for PTSD: The STRONG STAR Training Initiative</td>
<td>Brooke Fina, LCSW, BCD, STRONG STAR Consortium Training Initiative, UT Health San Antonio and Katy Dondaville, PsyD, ABPP, <em>UT Health San Antonio</em></td>
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<td>14:45</td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Moral Injury in Veterans and Service Members: Assessment, conceptualization, and treatment</td>
<td>Sheila Frankfurt, PhD, LP, VISN 17 Center of Excellence for Research on Returning War Veterans, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>Wrestling with the Spirit: Moral injury among Military Social Workers</td>
<td>Samuel Odom, PhD, ACSW, <em>Congressional Research Institute for Social Work &amp; Policy and Dexter R Freeman, DSW, LCSW, MSW Program, US Army, University of Kentucky</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Soul Searching: Intersections between chaplaincy and mental health</td>
<td>MAJ Nathan Graeser, MDiv, LCSW, DSW, <em>California National Guard; Director of Veteran Programs, Occidental College</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30</td>
<td>Shared Trauma and Resiliency Among Military Veterans: A qualitative inquiry</td>
<td>MAJ Tashina Miller, PhD, LCSW, <em>Walter Reed National Military Medical Center</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:00</td>
<td><strong>VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR &amp; NETWORKING</strong></td>
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MENTAL HEALTH CARE

For Post-9/11 Veterans, National Guard, Reserves & Military Families

Client-centered, evidence-based outpatient care for:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- PTSD
- Transition challenges
- Individuals
- Couples
- Families
- Adolescents

www.cohenveteransnetwork.org
10:00  Opening Remarks
Elisa Borah, PhD, Institute for Military and Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin

ETHICS
10:10  Reminded: Ethics in behavioral health
MAJ Michael Oganovich, PsyD, ABPP, Army Health Clinic-Stuttgart

MILITARY FAMILIES
11:15  Military Family Food Insecurity: Understanding experiences and incidences among active duty and veteran families
Shelley Kimball, PhD., Military Family Advisory Network

11:45  Understanding Military-Connected Families in their Communities
Rachel Linsner, MS, Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF), Syracuse University and Jennifer Akin, MPA, Blue Star Families

12:15  Retaining Warrior Moms: Understanding and intervening on family factors
Lt. Col. Erika King, LCSW, PhD, Mental Health Division, Air Force Medical Readiness Agency

GROUP STRETCH | BREAKOUT SESSIONS

COUPLES & SPOUSES
13:00  Conjoint Therapy for PTSD with Military and Veteran Couples
Brandi Luedtke, PsyD., HSPP, PTSD Clinic, Phoenix Veterans Health Care System

13:30  Supporting the Spouse Through Peer Support: A pilot of the Veteran Spouse Resiliency Group Program
Hannah O’Brien, MSSW, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin

IPV & SEXUAL ASSAULT
14:15  The VHA Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program
Juli K. McNeil, MSSW, LCSW, VISN 17 Women Veterans / Special Populations, Department of Veterans Affairs-VISN 17 and LeAnn Bruce, PhD, LCSW, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Assistance Program, Department of Veterans Affairs

14:45  Underreported and Overlooked: Military sexual assault among male service members
LTC Teresa D. Murray, LCSW, US Army

CONCERNS & SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ+ POPULATIONS
15:15  Military Transgender Care
COL Nathan Keller, PhD, LCSW, Student Counseling Center, Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD

15:45  An Analysis of Military Sexual Trauma Among LGBT Service Members
1LT Ashley N. Carrillo, LCSW-A, LMSW, MS and 1LT Marlon K. Dortch, LCSW-A, LMSW, MEd, US Army

VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR & NETWORKING
The VA’s Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) works to support veterans, their partners, and VA staff, who experience intimate partner violence. The program is integrated across the VA system with universal education, prevention, education, screening, assessment and various evidence-based interventions, including safety planning, couple’s counseling when appropriate and the Strength at Home program.

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<td>Disrupting the Military Collaboration Space by Leveraging Innovative Technology and Research Tools</td>
<td>John Boerstler, Combined Arms</td>
</tr>
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<td>10:45</td>
<td>Best Practices in Delivering Telemental Health Care to Veterans</td>
<td>Erin Andrews, PsyD, ABPP, and Cynthia Hoyler, MD, V17 Clinical Resource Hub: Mental Health Department of Veteran Affairs, VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System</td>
</tr>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>RACETIME: An organizational care coordination approach to improving patient outcomes in a complex healthcare setting</td>
<td>Rachele Misiti, LCSW, and Amberly Resinger, BSN, RN, Home Telehealth &amp; Integrated Case Management, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System</td>
</tr>
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<td>11:45</td>
<td>Transitions in VA Care</td>
<td>Alisa Heald, LCSW-S and Nicole Garcia, LCSW Central Texas Veterans Health Care System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>Changes in Central Texas VA Caregiver Support Program</td>
<td>Judith Kristen Bisceglia, LCSW, Social Work Program Manager, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System</td>
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<td>Cohen Veterans Network: An example of a collaborative mental health system</td>
<td>Caitlin Thompson, PhD, Cohen Veterans Network</td>
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<td>13:30</td>
<td>Supporting Military Connected Practice: An interactive, inclusive, and informed consultation approach</td>
<td>Kari L. Fletcher, MSW, PhD, LICSW, University of St. Thomas School of Social Work and Eugenia L. Weiss, PsyD, MSW, MA, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, University of Southern California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Community Mental Health Summits - National and Local Perspective</td>
<td>Cindy Swinkels, PhD, CBSM, VISN 6 MIRECC Durham VA Medical Center and Jeffrey Moe, MA, LCSW, Central Texas VA Health Care System and Steve Hicks School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin</td>
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<td>15:00</td>
<td>VHA Partnerships: Promoting wellness through focused rural social work models of care</td>
<td>Jennifer Silva, LCSW-S, Department of Veteran Affairs, National Social Work Program Office Health Care System, and Melissa Harding, LCSW, Central Arkansas Veterans Health Care Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Elisa Borah, PhD, Institute for Military and Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin</td>
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Meridell Achievement Center is a residential treatment center that specializes in behavioral and neurobehavioral programs for adolescents. We strive to help youth find successful outcomes and continued success after discharge.

FOCUS Marines Foundation serves marines in various stages of transition and recovery. FOCUS works to provide veterans with tools needed to meet and exceed their individual goals and create the lives they deserve, instilled with hope.

San Antonio Behavioral Healthcare Hospital (SABHH) is a 198-bed, acute care psychiatric and substance abuse treatment facility. We work to treat patients, by providing compassionate, individualized, trauma informed care. It is our conviction to provide our patients with the most advanced evidence-based treatment modalities. We strive to be the preeminent leader of trauma-informed care to create futures for the communities we serve.
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>MILITARY &amp; VETERAN FAMILIES</td>
<td>Prevalence and Correlates of Sleeping Arrangements, Satisfaction, and Insomnia in Military Families with Young Children Prior to Deployment, Kristi Pruiksma, PhD, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio</td>
</tr>
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<td>10:15</td>
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<td>Veterans Helping Veterans: Building a Peer Support Training Program for Veterans and Veteran Family Members, Jessica Rostockyj, MS, Baylor Scott &amp; White Health</td>
</tr>
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<td>10:30</td>
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<td>Developing Prioritization System and Enhancing Treatment Options for Patients Presenting to Army Family Advocacy Program, 1LT Thaddeus Raman, MSW, LSW, LCSW-A, and 1LT Tammy Saenz, MSW, LCSW-A, Department of Behavioral Health, Madigan Army Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>INTERDISCIPLINARY &amp; TRANSITIONAL CARE</td>
<td>Don't Become “An Apologist for Policy”: Lessons from a nationally recognized TCM team in supporting post-9/11 era veterans, Nikkole Weiss, LCSW, CCM, Overton Brooks VA Medical Center</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
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<td>Interdisciplinary Approach to Addressing the Needs of Food Insecure Homeless Veterans, Melissa Snyder, LCSW, Northport VA Medical Center</td>
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<td>11:30</td>
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<td>Training to Enhance Interdisciplinary Care for Prisoners at Risk of Severe Mental Illness: The Conceptual Model of Care for the Military Prisoner Population, 1LT Diedre Holthaus, LCSW-A, LMSW, MAJ Michelle Garcia, LCSW, BCD, LCDC, CBHC-BS, and 1LT Elena B. Haymond, LCSW-A, LMSW, Department of Behavioral Health, Madigan Army Medical Center</td>
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<td>11:45</td>
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<td>National ACP-GV Field Based Facilitator, Central Arkansas Veterans Health Care Administration, Melissa Harding, LCSW, Central Arkansas Veterans Health Care Administration</td>
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<td>12:00</td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>ADDRESSING TRAUMA &amp; STRESS</td>
<td>Moral Injury: Soul Wound, LTC Lataya Hawkins, LCSW, BCD, PhD Student, The University of Texas at Austin, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, US Army</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
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<td>Treatment Effectiveness in Active-Duty Personnel Suffering from PTSD, Timothy Erhardt, LCSW, Mission Resiliency, Laurel Ridge Treatment Center</td>
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<td>12:45</td>
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<td>Spouse/Partner Perceptions of a Service Dog Training Program for Veterans with PTSD, Lt. Col. (ret) James Whitworth, LCSW, PhD, University of Central Florida</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
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<td>A Recipe for Success: Stay the Course and VA Recovery Coordination, Warren Ponder, MSSW, PhD (Retired SGT), Stay The Course / 22Kill</td>
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<td>13:15</td>
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<td>Identifying Treatment for Violently Offending Veterans with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): A Literature Review, CAPT Emmett Arthur, PsyD, Tripler Army Medical Center</td>
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<td>13:30</td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>13:45</td>
<td>TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN SUPPORTS</td>
<td>Expanding Access to Evidence-Based Mental Health Care for Texas Veterans: Developing Strong Therapeutic Alliances via Telehealth, Megan Cardenas, BS, Baylor Scott &amp; White Research Institute</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
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<td>The Effectiveness of Technology-Delivered Interventions for Substance Use Issues in Military-Affiliated Populations: A Scoping Review, MAJ J.P. Hare, LCSW, BCD, PhD. Student, The Univeristy of Texas at Austin, US Army</td>
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<td>14:15</td>
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<td>An Examination of Acute Substance Use Among United States Air Force Suicide Decedents, CAPT Gim Reo, BS, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, US Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:45</td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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**NOTE:** Track 1 and Track 2 presentations will take place simultaneously on Friday, 7/24. Viewers can switch between the tracks at any time by clicking out of the breakout room, at which point conference staff can redirect you to your preferred track.
## TRACK 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td><strong>OPENING REMARKS</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 10:30  | **SUICIDE PREVENTION**                                               | Interdisciplinary Training of Safety Precautions for Patients at Acute Risk for Suicide in an Army Medical Center  
CAPT Karen Kirsten, LCSW-A CPT, MS, Department of Behavioral Health, Madigan Army Medical Center and 1LT Tasha Hopkins, LCSW-A, Rainier Embedded Behavioral Health |
| 10:45  | Suicide Prevention Services and Coordination of Long-Term Mental Health Care for Veterans Ineligible for VA Care: An Implementation Initiative, Taylor Phillips, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System (CTVHCS) VISN 17 Center of Excellence |
| 11:00  | Preventing Suicide through VA and Community Collaboration: The Process of Community Asset Mapping for Suicide Prevention, Christina Burns, BS, Department of Veterans Affairs VISN 17 Center of Excellence for Research on Returning War Veterans |
| 11:15  | Changing Social Norms in the Military to Increase Help Seeking Behavior and Save Lives, Mitchell K. Page, MSW, LCSW, BCD, Central Connecticut State University |
| 11:30  | Facets of Self-Compassion as a Means to Predict Risk and Protective Factors of Suicidal Ideation, CAPT. Justin Fang, MA, Madigan Army Medical Center |
| 11:45  | **Q&A**                                                              |                                                                              |
| 12:00  | **UNIQUE TREATMENT MODALITIES**                                       | Solution Art Finding Recovery (SAFR Groups)  
Marianne DuMond, MPsy, PhD, *Stay the Course / 22Kill*  
Evaluation of the Veteran’s PATH Anchor Program: A Four-Month Mindfulness-Based Program for Gulf War Era Veterans, Vanessa Meade, PsyD, LCSW, University of Alaska Anchorage  
Literacy and Therapy: Creative Writing for Incarcerated Veterans, Brooke Pililfant PhD., M.Ed., M.A., and Clayton Bradshaw, MFA, *Down South Word of Mouth* |
| 12:45  | **STUDENT VETERANS**                                                  | The Significance of Oral Health When Applied Towards Mental and Physical Health of Student Veterans  
Kristen Laha-Walsh, MSW, and Jessica Bertram, University of Alabama |
| 13:00  | Relationship of Strengths and Limitations Among Military Students Attending an HBCU  
Marilyn W. Lewis, PhD and Liyun Wu, PhD, *The Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work at Norfolk State University* |
| 13:15  | **Q&A**                                                              |                                                                              |
| 13:30  | **INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE**                                         | Stakeholder Responses to Military Connected Spousal Abuse Disclosure: An Online Observation  
Christine Highfill, MSW, MA, *The University of Texas at Arlington* |
| 13:45  | Why IPV Matters in the US Army, LTC Ulu Elia Porter, MFT, LCSW, BCD, DSW, *Child and Family Fellowship, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center* |
| 14:00  | **LARGE-SCALE AREAS OF FOCUS**                                        | An Examination of Sexual Harassment, Gender Discrimination, Stalking, and Sexual Assault among Female and Male Veterans and Associations with PTSD and Depression, Maj. Carrie Lucas, PhD, MSW, MPA, MMOAS, LICSW, BCD, US Air Force |
| 14:15  | International Military Social Work: The Development of a Global Partnership, Mary Ann Forgey, MSW, PhD., *Fordham University* |
| 14:30  | Military Behavioral Health Considerations During Modern Large Scale Combat Operations (LSCO)  
MAJ Gregory Mabry, PsyD, LCSW, RN, *Medical Center of Excellence (MEDCoE)* |
| 14:45  | **Q&A**                                                              |                                                                              |

**NOTE:** Track 1 and Track 2 presentations will take place simultaneously on Friday, 7/24. Viewers can switch between the tracks at any time by clicking out of the breakout room, at which point conference staff can redirect you to your preferred track.
Jennifer Akin, MPA
Senior Evaluation Manager, Blue Star Families

Jenny Akin is Blue Star Families’ Senior Evaluation Manager, responsible for the design, implementation, and oversight of BSF’s program evaluation, member research, and other targeted research projects. In this role, Jenny translates data into understanding to improve organizational programming and employees’ sense of purpose. She is a thought leader on developing social impact goals for BSF and has developed an interdisciplinary framework to maximize this impact at the BSF Chapter level. Jenny has a Bachelor of Arts in Peace, War, and Defense (and History) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a Master’s degree in Public Administration from North Carolina State University.

Erin E. Andrews, Psy.D., ABPP
Psychology Program Manager, VISN 17 Mental Health Clinical Resource Hub, VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System

Dr. Erin E. Andrews is a board-certified rehabilitation psychologist with a doctorate from Wright State University and Bachelor of Science from Michigan State University. In her current role, Dr. Andrews coordinates the provision of psychosocial mental health treatments to Veterans throughout underserved areas across Texas via televideo technology. She is Affiliate Faculty in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School. Dr. Andrews is a Member of the Board of Directors of the American Board of Rehabilitation Psychology and the Academy of Rehabilitation Psychology.

Judith Kristen Bisceglia, LCSW
Social Work Program Manager, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System

Judith Kristen Bisceglia is an LCSW, obtaining her Masters degree in Social Work from Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas in 2012. She has worked for eight years at the Central Texas Veteran Affairs Healthcare System. She started on the Acute Psychiatry Unit and transitioned to the Transition Care Management Program as a Case Manager. In the Fall of 2018, Ms. Bisceglia was selected as Transition Care Management/ Caregiver Support Program Manager.

John Boerstler
CEO, Combined Arms

After serving in the United States Marine Corps for eight years, John went on to complete his bachelor’s degree at Texas A&M University and a Master in Public Administration degree from the University of Houston. In 2011 John was a recipient of the prestigious Marshall Memorial Fellowship where he was tapped to represent the United States in eight different European countries through a month-long fellowship. Today, John has become a strong advocate for veterans, after working for a United States Congressman, two Mayors of Houston, the Wounded Warrior Project, Veteran Energy, NextOp and now as the leader for Combined Arms.

Conference Sponsor Spotlight

The Mission Resiliency Program at Laurel Ridge has a long-standing reputation for effectively treating America’s active duty military. We place the highest priority on utilizing the most cutting-edge treatments for our service members, to treat issues surrounding combat trauma, military sexual trauma, substance abuse, and dual diagnosis.
LeAnn Bruce, PhD, LCSW
National Program Manager, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Assistance Program, Department of Veterans Affairs

For over 25 years, Dr. Bruce has been involved in the prevention and intervention of Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence across a variety of settings throughout her social work career serving active duty military, Veterans, and their families. Dr. Bruce has served on several national committees and organizations dedicated to social work and ending violence. She has also served as a Special Assistant to the Caregiver Support Program, supporting program growth to meet the mandates outlined in the MISSION Act. She is also an adjunct professor at Western Kentucky University School of Social Work. Dr. Bruce received her PhD in Social Work in December 2016 upon completion of her dissertation entitled, Assessing Moral Injury and Existential Well-Being in Returning Servicemembers. She is also the author of a book series for children, Miss Kindheart’s Class, that teaches children about compassion and overcoming challenges.

1LT Ashley N. Carrillo, LCSW-A, LMSW, MS
Social Work Intern, US Army

First Lieutenant Ashley Carrillo commissioned and earned a MSW in the Army - University of Kentucky program in 2019. She earned an MS in Criminal Justice for Texas State University and a MS and BA in psychology for Avila University. 1LT Carrillo is currently in the Army’s Social Work Internship Program at Fort Hood, Texas under clinical supervision in the Kennedy Embedded Behavioral Health clinic with the Substance Use Disorder Clinical Care team. As a civilian, she worked for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as a Conservatorship Specialist assessing risk and mitigating safety issues for children and families within the foster care system.

Kate Anne Comtois, PhD, MPH
Professor, University of Washington; Clinical Psychologist, Clinical Director Harborview Psychotherapy Clinic

Dr. Comtois has been working in the area of health services to prevent suicide for over 25 years. She has studied suicide behavioral health interventions in trials funded by the Department of Defense as well as NIMH, NIDA, and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. As the Director of Dissemination and Implementation for the Military Suicide Research Consortium, she also focuses on implementing science into practice. Dr. Comtois directed the DBT program and Psychotherapy Clinic at the Harborview Medical Center community mental health program from 1996-2019 and currently treats acutely suicidal patients in an outpatient clinic.

Kate Dondaville, Psy.D, ABPP
Associate Professor-Research, UT Health San Antonio

Kate Dondaville, PsyD, ABPP, is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist. She is board certified in cognitive and behavioral psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. Dr. Dondanville is the director of research for the Fort Hood Site of the STRONG STAR Consortium and the Consortium to Alleviate PTSD. She oversees 30 faculty and staff in the delivery and evaluation of clinical intervention research for combat PTSD and related conditions in collaboration with some of the world’s leading clinical experts.
PRESENTER BIOS

1LT Marlon Dortch, LCSW-A, MEd.
Social Work Intern, US Army

First Lieutenant Marlon Dortch commissioned in 2017 and earned an MSW in the Army – University of Kentucky program in 2019. He earned a MEd from Iowa State University in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and a BA in Sociology from Norfolk State University. He is currently in the Army’s Social Work Internship Program at Fort Bliss, Texas under clinical supervision with 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division Embedded Behavioral Health clinic. Prior to the Army, 1LT Dortch worked in higher education as a student affairs practitioner, and teaching and presenting at national conferences on politics related to race, gender, and identity.

Scot D. Engel, PsyD
Director, Fort Hood Intrepid Spirit Center; Officer in Charge, Fort Hood Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic; Site Director, Defense and Veterans Brain Injury

Dr. Scot Engel is a clinical psychologist who oversees and directs the five sections (medical, rehab, pain management, psychological health, and research) that provide coordinated, individualized, and simultaneous care for active duty service members at the ISC. He has over 18 years of executive leadership experience building trans-disciplinary teams, developing outpatient and intensive outpatient programs, and conducting research on the invisible wounds of war.

Brooke Fina, LCSW, BCD
Associate Professor, Clinical Social Worker, STRONG STAR Consortium Training Initiative, UT Health San Antonio

Brooke Fina provides clinical services, training, and administrative support for the STRONG STAR Consortium and Consortium to Alleviate PTSD that involves over 150 of the nation’s leading experts conducting multiple clinical trials to determine the most effective treatments for PTSD, sleep disorders, suicide, and related conditions in active duty military personnel. She specializes in Prolonged Exposure (PE) for combat-related PTSD, and is a Master Clinician and Clinical Supervisor in PE.

Kari L. Fletcher, MSW, PhD, LICSW
Associate Professor, MSW Program Director, Area of Emphasis in Military Practice Coordinator, University of St. Thomas School of Social Work

Dr. Fletcher holds a number of leadership roles in the field. At the national level, she holds a co-chair position for the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting Military Personnel and Veterans, First Responders, and their Families and Communities track. In addition, Dr. Fletcher serves as an assessment committee member and acting development group co-facilitator at the University of St. Thomas, and is actively involved in ongoing accreditation, admissions, curriculum development/redesign, hybrid education, and program assessments.

Sheila Frankfurt, PhD, LP
Investigator, VISN 17 Center of Excellence for Research on Returning War Veterans, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System, Waco, TX

Dr. Sheila Frankfurt completed her PhD in Counseling Psychology at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and completed her postdoctoral fellowship at the VISN 17 Center of Excellence. Her research focuses on developing assessment tools and treatments for combat trauma and moral injury.
Dexter R. Freeman, DSW, LCSW
Assistant Director, MSW Program, US Army- University of Kentucky

Dr. Dexter R. Freeman is a retired Lieutenant Colonel and United States Army Social Work Officer, and a decorated US Army Combat Veteran (Operation Enduring Freedom /Operation Iraqi Freedom) who served more than 24 years in the United States Army. He earned a BS degree in Social Welfare from Austin Peay State University, Master of Social Work degree from University of Georgia and a DSW degree in Social Work from the Catholic University of America.

Nicole Garcia, LCSW
HBPC Program Director, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System

Ms. Garcia has worked throughout the country, serving veterans in Polytrauma, Primary Care (PACT), Mental Health (MHICM), Homelessness (HCHV & HUD/VASH), Residential Care/Substance Abuse (DRRTP/SATP), & Geriatrics (HBPC). Nicole is currently the Home Based Primary Care Program Director for Central Texas. Nicole was previously a Victim Advocate working with the Domestic Abuse Response Team, a partnership with LAPD targeting intervention for domestic violence 911 calls. Nicole served as a first responder with LAPD & later the Fort Campbell Military Police before transitioning to the VA.

MAJ Nate Graeser, MDiv, LCSW, DSW
Army Chaplain & Social Worker, California National Guard; Director, of Veteran Programs, Occidental College

In addition to his current roles, Maj. Graeser serves as the lead developer of a Military Family Peer Navigator Curriculum for the UCLA Veteran Family Wellness Center. He is a national expert on policies and programs for supporting service-members transitioning out of the military. He has been featured on NPR, ABC, and numerous other media outlets. As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, he has spent thousands of hours counseling veterans and their families, helping them navigate the challenges of service and returning home. He serves on numerous local and national boards and just returned from a deployment with an Infantry Brigade in December 2018.

Melissa Harding, LCSW
National ACP-GV Field Based Facilitator, Central Arkansas Veterans Health Care Administration

Melissa “Missy” Harding’s current role at Advance Care Planning via GP Visits, involves aiding in promoting the national effort to spread this innovative program enterprise wide. Her career covers 29 years in multiple VA’s and areas including Primary Care, PRRC, MHC, CNH, ADHC, SVH. She has held multiple leadership roles throughout her career including: Chief, SWS, ACOS-BH, Acting National IPV Program Manager and Acting Assistant Medical Center Director. Her career focus has been mainly with geriatric programming. Ms. Harding has served in several capacities within the National Care Management and Social Work Service (CM/SWS) Committees.

Alisa Heald, LCSW-S
Integrated Care Coordination Program Manager, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System

Alisa Heald is a native Texan and obtained her BSW at St. Edwards University and her MSW at Texas State University. In her current role, Ms. Heald oversees the Patient Aligned Care Team/Integrated Case Management Program as well as the social workers embedded within Acute Medicine and the Emergency Department. She is also the Student Program Liaison for Social Work Service and runs group seminars for all Temple and Waco MSW final field placements. Ms. Heald has clinical experience and training in substance abuse treatment with prior experience of providing oversight to residential treatment programming. She is also trained and has extensive knowledge in treating PTSD with a specific focus on combat trauma.
Cynthia Hoyler, MD
Medical Director: V17 Clinical Resource Hub: Mental Health Department of Veteran Affairs, VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System

Dr. Cynthia Hoyler began her career with a Bachelors Degree in Nursing from Texas Christian University and a Masters Degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. She received her Medical Degree and Psychiatric training at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. In 1998 she established a private practice of Psychiatry and maintained this practice until she joined the VA Healthcare system as a Telehealth Psychiatrist in 2012. She currently serves as the Medical Director for the Nationally Designated VISN 17 Mental Health Clinical Resource Hub which provides mental healthcare services to Veterans across Texas via teleconferencing technology.

COL Nathan Keller, LCSW, PhD.
Director, Student Counseling Center, Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD

Colonel Nathan Keller has been practicing social work as an active duty United States Army Social Work Officer since 1994. COL. Keller’s last assignment was the Director for the Army - University of Kentucky MSW Program, at the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, MEDCoE in Fort Sam Houston. Prior to that, COL Keller was the Director of Treatment Programs for both the United States Disciplinary Barracks (USDB) and the Joint Regional Correctional Facility (JRCF) at Fort Leavenworth KS. COL Keller deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as Chief of Mental Health Services for the 1st Cavalry Division from 2006-2008. COL. Keller has been recognized for his research and clinical expertise in the areas of corrections, resiliency, trauma, combat stress operations, and deployment/re-integration mental health programs.

Shelley Kimball, PhD
Senior Director of Research and Program Evaluation, the Military Family Advisory Network

As the research director for the Military Family Advisory Network, Dr. Kimball, gathers the real-life experience of military families to understand where they most need support and making sure they get it. She has presented MFAN’s research to the White House, on Capitol Hill, and at the Pentagon, where it has been used to shape policy affecting military families. Her research on privatized military housing garnered national media attention and led to systemic overhaul. She earned her doctorate from the University of Florida. She is a military spouse, and she teaches qualitative research methods at The George Washington University.

Lt. Col. Erika King, LCSW, PhD
Program & Policy Evaluation Branch Chief, Mental Health Division, Air Force Medical Readiness Agency

Maj. Erika L. King completed her Ph.D. at the University of Texas at Austin, where her studies focused on policies affecting military women’s retention. She most recently served as Flight Commander and Behavioral Health Consultant at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. In her current role, Maj. King oversees quality assurance and research projects aimed at optimizing the Air Force’s family maltreatment prevention, embedded mental health, and substance disorder treatment programs and policies. Her publications focus on military mental health providers' wellness and military women’s retention.
Rachel Linser, MS
*Doctoral Research Fellow, Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF), Syracuse University*

Rachel Linser works in the Research & Evaluation division on survey development, data analysis, and writing for research related to military and veteran families, military spouse employment, veteran transition, and civil-military relations issues. Before joining the IVMF in 2015, she worked as a research intern at the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress (CSTS). Ms. Linser’s research interests are in military families, child and family policies, family processes and child outcomes, trauma, and family/parenting stress.

Brandi Luedtke, PsyD
*Clinical Psychologist & Program Manager, PTSD Clinic, Phoenix Veterans Health Care System*

Following her doctoral internship at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center, Dr. Brandi Luedtke returned to the VA in Indianapolis to serve as Co-developer of a mindfulness-based couples therapy for PTSD. Dr. Luedtke serves as a National Trainer and Consultant for the VA Office of Family Services and travels nationwide conducting workshops for the dissemination of Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy (CBCT) for PTSD. She has collaborated on several other couples-based programs, including working with The University of Texas at Austin Institute for Military and Veteran Family Wellness, the Chris Kyle Frog Foundation, and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

MAJ Ian Lynch, PsyD.
*Brigade Psychologist, 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade (SFAB)*

Dr. (Major) Ian Lynch is a clinical psychologist with extensive experience in civilian and military, overseas, and deployed settings. Prior to psychology, he served for ten years as a commissioned officer with numerous positions of leadership, command, and staff. His doctoral dissertation examined the relationship between sleep quantity and quality and measures of executive functioning in military personnel with a history of TBI. His current research and clinical interests include psychological assessment; the relationship between sleep and performance, leadership and organizational functioning and readiness; and multicultural competency and identity development. He is currently nearing completion of a national-level credential as a psychoanalyst.

Juli K. McNeil, MSSW, LCSW
*Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 17 Women Veterans/Special Populations Program Manager, Department of Veterans Affairs-VISN 17, Arlington, TX*

Juli K. McNeil has been employed with the VHA for over 26 years. She is currently the Women Veterans/Special Populations Program Manager for the Veterans Integrated Services Network (VISN) 17. In her 26+ VA career she has worked in various VHA programs, such as mental health, suicide prevention, geriatrics, etc. She has also served as a Social Work Executive, EAP Coordinator and Graduate Social Work Education Coordinator. Juli received a Master of Science in Social Work and a 60-hour Post Graduate Certificate in Military and Veterans Affairs at the University of Texas, Arlington and a Bachelor of Social Work from Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, OK.
**MAJ Tashina Miller, PhD, LCSW**  
*NCC Child and Family Social Work Fellow, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center*

In 2008, Dr. Tashina Miller joined the Army as a Behavioral Health Technician. Her first duty station was at General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital, where she worked at one of the first Embedded Behavioral Health Clinics. In 2011 Dr. Miller was direct commissioned as a Social Work Officer, at which point she took an assignment at Ft. Riley Irwin Army Community Hospital working in Family Advocacy. Since 2012, Dr. Miller has served as Officer In Charge of a Combat Operational Stress Control Prevention team, Behavioral Health Officer for 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, clinical staff in the Multi-Disciplinary Behavioral Health Clinic at the Troop Medical Clinic, as staff clinician within Lyster Army Health Clinic and as an Installation Director of Psychological Health.

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**Rachele Misiti, LCSW**  
*Assistant Chief, Social Work Service, Site Lead, Integrated Case Management, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System*

In 2014, after years of providing case management to seriously injured combat Veterans at the VA, Ms. Misiti moved into a leadership position, as the Transition and Care Management Program Manager for Central Texas. Recent special projects of Ms. Misiti’s include the rapid expansion of Veteran to Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL) and social work site lead for Integrated Case Management initiative. In partnership with Dorothy Sanders, Ms. Misiti developed the operational framework of RACETIME, the integrated care coordination training model adopted for rollout across all VA’s.

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**Jeffrey Moe, MA, LCSW**  
*Student Veteran Coordinator, Central Texas VA Health Care System and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Steve Hicks School of Social Work*

Jeffrey Moe is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who works as a Student Veteran Outreach Coordinator for the US Department of Veterans Affairs at colleges and universities in the Austin, Texas area. Born and raised in Southern California, Jeff enlisted in the US Army in 2002 and served for seven years as an Arabic Linguist. After leaving the Military, Jeff took advantage of his Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits and earned graduate degrees in both Middle Eastern Studies and Social Work. As a part of his current duties, Jeff serves student veterans by providing counseling, healthcare enrollment, resource referrals, and assistance with academic accommodations. Jeff also provides professional development opportunities for faculty and staff so they are able to serve and empower student veterans more effectively.

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**LTC Teresa D. Murray, LCSW, PhD Candidate**  
*Social Work Officer, US Army*

Lieutenant Colonel Teresa Murray is an active duty officer in the United States Army with 17 years of military service. She graduated from the inaugural class of the Army-Fayetteville State University Master of Social Work Program in 2009, and has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the state of North Carolina since 2011. She has a wide range of clinical experience with service members and their families in both stateside and deployed clinical settings. She is currently completing her dissertation on the role of institutional betrayal as a predictor of military retention among service members who have experienced sexual assault.
Hannah O’Brien, MSSW
Program Manager, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin

Hannah O’Brien supports Texas veteran families through research and programming, with a focus on veteran spouses and peer support programming. Hannah received her Masters of Science in Social Work at the University of Texas at Austin’s School of Social Work in 2017. Ms. O’Brien has worked in both the public and non-profit sectors working with children in schools, helping released offenders and those experiencing poverty find employment, and helping create programs aimed at increasing adult literacy.

Samuel Odom, PhD, ACSW
President, Congressional Research Institute for Social Work & Policy

Dr. Samuel Odom is a decorated US Army Combat Veteran (Operation Enduring Freedom / Operation Iraqi Freedom) who served 24 years in the United States Army (deployments in Southwest Asia). Prior to his current role, Dr. Odom was a professor for Millie M. Charles School of Social Work on the Southern University at New Orleans campus. He earned a BA degree in Philosophy from Dillard University, Master of Social Work degree from Southern University at New Orleans, and a PhD in Counseling from Harold Abel School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Capella University.

MAJ Michael Oganovich PsyD, ABPP
Director, Army Health Clinic-Stuttgart

Dr. Oganovich graduated with his BA from Augustana College, IL in 2005. In 2007, he earned his MA in Clinical Psychology and in 2010, his Doctor of Psychology from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology. Dr. Oganovich completed his clinical psychology internship at Madigan Army Medical Center in 2011 and residency in 2012. In 2014, he earned board certification in Clinical Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology. Military schools include: U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (ILE), AMEDD Advanced and Basic courses, Common Faculty Development - Instructor Course, Aeromedical Psychology, Combat Stress Control, Behavioral Science Consultation Team, SERE-C HR, and Personnel Recovery Debriefing.

Jill Palmer, DSW, LCSW
Senior Director of Clinic Operations, Endeavors

Dr. Palmer is a Navy Veteran, and 2019 graduate from the Doctor of Social Work program at the University of Tennessee. Her research focuses on Veterans, suicide prevention and quality of life. With ten years of leadership experience and over 16 years of experience as a licensed clinical social worker, she is experienced in treating trauma, depression and anxiety in children, families, Veterans, and active duty populations. Dr. Palmer is spearheading the implementation of the Veteran Wellness Center in San Antonio, Texas, which is focusing on the integration of mental health, physical health, and recovery services, with a foundation of wellness principles.
**Lt. Col. (ret) Alan Peterson, PhD, ABPP**  
*Professor, UT Health San Antonio*

Alan Peterson, PhD, is a board-certified clinical health psychologist within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He is the Director of the STRONG STAR Consortium and the Consortium to Alleviate PTSD. These two consortia include over 150 research collaborators and 40 institutions worldwide. He served for 21 years on active duty with the U.S. Air Force including deployments in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. He has published over 200 scientific manuscripts and given over 400 presentations at national and international meetings.

**Kristi E. Pruiksma, PhD**  
*Associate Professor & Clinical Psychologist, UT Health San Antonio*

Dr. Pruiksma’s work focuses on sleep disorders and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD); she has expertise in Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) for PTSD and cognitive behavior therapy for insomnia and for nightmares. Dr. Pruiksma has served as an investigator, research therapist, and supervisor for the STRONG STAR Research Consortium and the Consortium to Alleviate PTSD (strongstar.org). She has authored or co-authored over 30 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters related to these fields.

**Amberly Resinger, BSN, RN**  
*Nurse Manager – Home Telehealth & Integrated Case Management, Central Texas Veterans Health Care System*

Ms. Risinger has chosen to serve Veterans at the VA for her entire nursing career. She began her nursing career with the VA shortly upon graduating from University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in June 2010, where she cared for Veterans admitted on the Acute Medicine/Telemetry inpatient ward. In 2013, she transitioned into Nursing Case Management. She has been instrumental in the expansion and further development of the Nursing Case Management Program, including the realignment of the Home Telehealth Program to reduce nursing case management efforts and duplication. Ms. Risinger has served as a field advisor on VA’s National team for Integrated Case Management/Care Coordination since 2018. On a personal note, Ms. Risinger is a mother of two girls, who keep her youthful in her hobbies.

**Jennifer Silva, LCSW-S**  
*Assistant Chief of Social Work Services, Department of Veteran Affairs, Tennessee Valley Health Care System*

Prior to her current role, Ms. Silva served as the Assistant Chief of Social work at the Central Veterans Healthcare System. Ms. Silva’s main areas of focus include issues related to assessment and treatment of behavioral health, suicide prevention and medical social work in the veteran population. She has spent her career in multiple clinical arenas including Child Protective Services (CPS), Hospital Social Work and crisis intervention. In addition, Ms. Silva has served as an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Texas at Austin’s Steve Hicks School of Social Work, teaching a graduate level class on the specific needs of the active duty and veteran populations.

**Cindy Swinkels, PhD, CBSM**  
*Clinical Psychologist - VISN 6 MIRECC Durham VA Medical Center*

Dr. Cindy Swinkels is a Clinical Psychologist with the VISN 6 MIRECC. She has been with the VA for 8 years. During this time, she completed a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship with the MIRECC at the Durham VAMC focusing on the relationship between sleep and other co-morbid medical and mental health issues. Dr. Swinkels is the Special Projects Consultant with VACO on the National Mental Health Summits and provides technical assistance and support to VACO 150+ Medical Centers across the VA system. In addition to these duties, she is the Site Lead of a multi-center National VA Call Center – Coaching Into Care (CIC), which provides resources and a “coaching” service for family and friends of Veterans who want to get their Veteran loved one into mental health care.
Caitlin Thompson, PhD  
VP, Community Partnerships, Cohen Veterans Network

In her current role, Dr. Caitlin Thompson is responsible for establishing and maintaining critical national and local collaborations between CVN and public-private partners. A licensed clinical psychologist, she was most recently Executive Director of the VA’s Office of Suicide Prevention, leading VA’s integrated public health approach to suicide prevention. Prior to her work in the VA Suicide Prevention Office, she spent five years as the clinical care coordinator for the Veterans Crisis Line. Thompson has a BA in music from Brown University and an MEd and PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Virginia.

Eugenia L. Weiss, PsyD, MSW, MA  
Clinical Professor, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, University of Southern California

Eugenia L. Weiss is a licensed clinical social worker, licensed psychologist and certified alcohol & drug counselor. In addition to teaching masters and doctoral courses and serving as director of two academic centers, Dr. Weiss has maintained a private practice for over 18 years, working with military personnel and their families. She is the author and co-author of multiple peer-reviewed journal publications, book chapters and military/veteran-focused books. Her research interests include military/veteran behavioral health, program evaluation, diversity and education. She is a proud Army mom.

Karen Williams, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC  
Nurse Practitioner, Headache Center of Excellence, Veterans Health Care System, Richmond, VA

Dr. Karen Williams has 36 years of progressive nursing experience; 13 years’ experience as a Registered Nurse; 23 years’ experience as a Nurse Practitioner. She has expertise in both concussion and headache management and has specialized in headache management using an integrative approach for the last 6.5 years. Dr. Williams graduated with her BSN from Niagara University in 1983, her MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner from University of Cincinnati in 1996 and her Doctorate of Nursing from the University of Alabama in 2018. She completed a 300-hour Medical acupuncture program and holds national certification in Auricular acupuncture, Acupuncture Detox Specialist and the National Headache Foundation Certificate in added Qualification in Headache Medicine.
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- Additional Resources: TRICARE Military Dependent Program (click above text to download)

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