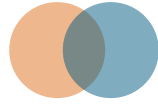


JUNE 12-14  
**2023**



MILITARY SOCIAL WORK  
& BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
**CONFERENCE**

*Ensuring wellness through social support*







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## WELCOME

On behalf of the Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, we welcome you to the 2023 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 experts about how to best deliver the best social work programs, community supports 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 *ensuring wellness through social support* to promote enhanced wellness, recovery, and prevention efforts.

The conference will offer an opportunity for cross-sector dialogue with a hope to spur increased collaboration among community-based, DoD, and VA social workers and behavioral health providers and researchers.

# Thank You to Our Conference Sponsors!

This event was made possible through the generous support of our sponsors. It is only through their contributions that we are able to put on this important event, supporting the best practices and dialogue needed to improve how we care for our service members, veterans, families and caregivers.

## EMERALD SPONSOR



## Our Venue Donors & Happy Hour Sponsors



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Military Family Clinic  
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## CONFERENCE SPONSORS





## Executive Team



**Elisa Borah, PhD, MSW**  
*Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin*



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



**Laurianne Rodriguez, MS**  
*Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin*



**Anil Arora, LCSW**  
*University of Houston, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin*



**Abby Blankenship, PhD**  
*Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin*



**Aubrey Harvey, BS**  
*Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin*

## Committee Members

**Capt Barry Adams, USN, Retired, PhD, MSC, LCSW,**  
*Navy Medicine Professional Development Center (NMPDC), Walter Reed National Military Medical Center*



**LTC Lataya Hawkins, PhD, LCSW-S, BCD, MEDCoE**  
*Graduate Program; Army-UK Master of Social Work Program, Medical Center of Excellence, JBSA-FSH*



**LTC Chris Paine, PhD, BCD, MS, US Army Psychological Health, Fort Hood, Texas, Behavioral Health**  
*Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center (CRDAMC) DHA Central Texas Behavioral Health*



**LTC Rohul Amin, MD,**  
*Residency Training Program, National Capital Consortium and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center*



**COL Nathan Keller, USA, Retired, PhD, LCSW,**  
*Student Counseling Center, Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD*



**Katherine Selber, PhD,**  
*School of Social Work at Texas State University*



**LTC Janet Belton, PhD, LISW, BCD, MS**  
*Division of Behavioral Health Sciences, Department of Force Health Protection, Medical Center of Excellence, Ft. Sam Houston, TX*



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



**LTC Roxanna Sheaffer, PsyD,**  
*Division of Behavioral Health Sciences at the United States Army Medical Center of Excellence*



**Leah Christensen, LCSW,**  
*Program of General Caregiver Support Services, Caregiver Support Program, Veterans Health Administration*



**Rachele Misiti, LCSW-S**  
*Care Coordination and Integrated Case Management (CC&ICM) Consortium, VA Western States Network Consortium (WSNC)*



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



**MAJ Jennifer Frazier, LCSW, CADCI, BCD,**  
*Clinical Training Branch, Division of Behavioral Health Sciences, U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas*



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



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



**CPT Jessica Nanzer, DSW, LCSW, BCD,**  
*5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky*



**COL Jeffrey Yarvis, USA, Retired, LCSW, BCD, ACSW, ACHE, TS-SCI,**  
*CEO Victory Leadership Consulting, LLC*





# 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 certificate, reflecting the hours you completed.

Please note that all CEUs will be offered by The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work's Office of Professional Development. As with any event, if you are joining from outside the state of Texas, you must check with your state's licensing board to ensure that Texas-based CEUs are accepted. Many states offer reciprocity between states, others require you to formally request approval from out-of-state credits, and some strictly do not allow out-of-state credit. If you plan to receive CEUs check on the requirements of your state's licensing board.

## CEUs

Social Work, LPC, LMFT, LPsych: Up to 11.5 CEUs can be earned by Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors, and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, and Licensed Psychologists. Those attending the Day 3 Military Behavioral Health Short Course (active duty service members only), will be eligible to earn an additional 6.75 CEUs.

*The Office of Professional Development at The University of Texas at Austin Steve Hicks School of Social Work provides continuing education in accordance with the criteria and standards of the Texas Board of Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors, and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists and Licensed Psychologists under Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 34. § 781.509. Complaints about this program may be made to TSBSWE, 1801 Congress Ave., Ste. 7. 300 Austin, TX 78701 • 512-305-7700 • 800-821-3205 • [bhec.texas.gov/texas-state-board-of-social-worker-examiners/](http://bhec.texas.gov/texas-state-board-of-social-worker-examiners/).*

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

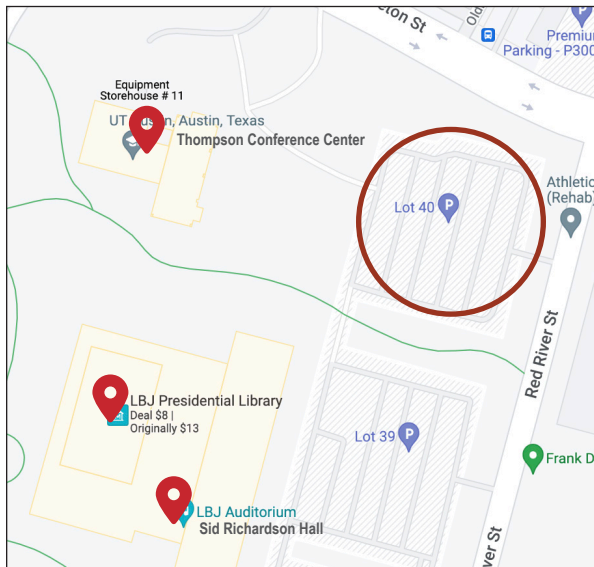
1. Recognize and reduce access to barriers to health care access faced by military/veteran individuals and their families.
2. Identify available Department of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Health Administration (VHA) healthcare programs and community initiatives that support military/veteran individuals 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. Identify social and peer support opportunities within current systems of care in order to better support military and veteran individuals and families.



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Conference Location

The conference will be held at The University of Texas at Austin, with breakout sessions taking place at the Thompson Conference Center (TCC) and the LBJ Auditorium from June 12-14, 2023. See **page 6** for more information on the venue.



## Session Attendance Verification

Upon checking into the conference at the registration table at Sid Richardson Hall, you will receive a name badge with a QR code. **In order to confirm your attendance and receive credit, you must check into each session you attend.** There will be volunteers with iPads in front of each session, who will scan your name badge to document your attendance.

After the conclusion of the conference, you will be emailed an evaluation form, based on the sessions you attended. **You must complete the evaluation form to receive your CEU certificate.**

## Day 3 | June 14<sup>th</sup>

General conference attendees will have an opportunity to engage in discussion groups to expand upon the presentations they attended on Days 1 and 2. Discussion groups will be held in the morning, concluding around 12pm.

Active duty service members who registered for the Military Behavioral Health Short Course will attend from 7:45am-5:15pm. Attendees will have the opportunity to earn an additional 6.75 CEUs.

## Exhibitor Information

Emerald and Diamond Sponsors will be located in **Sid Richardson Hall** (located in the same building as the LBJ Auditorium) and the Silver, Gold, and Platinum Sponsors will be located in the lobby and the Under the Oaks Cafe at the **Thompson Conference Center (TCC)**.

We encourage attendees to visit our exhibitor tables to learn about the important services and programs these organizations offer to our communities. We are so appreciative of their support as they have made this event possible. Exhibitors will only be set up on June 12th and 13th, so take advantage when you can on these days.

## Info Card with Material Details

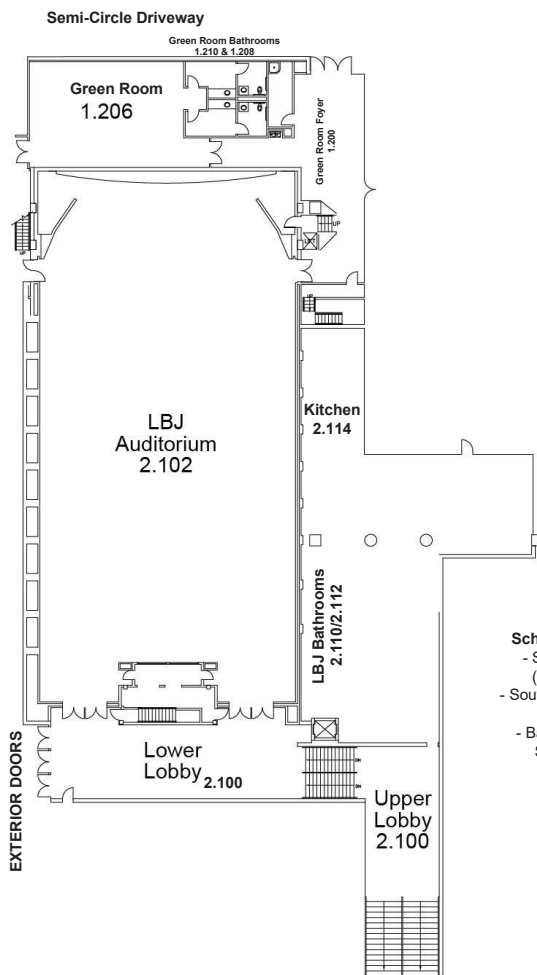
In your welcome folder, you received an info card, outlining conference material details. **Please review this card carefully and hold on to it throughout the conference** to ensure you have important information you will need surrounding lunch, drink tickets, venue information, and the poster reception.



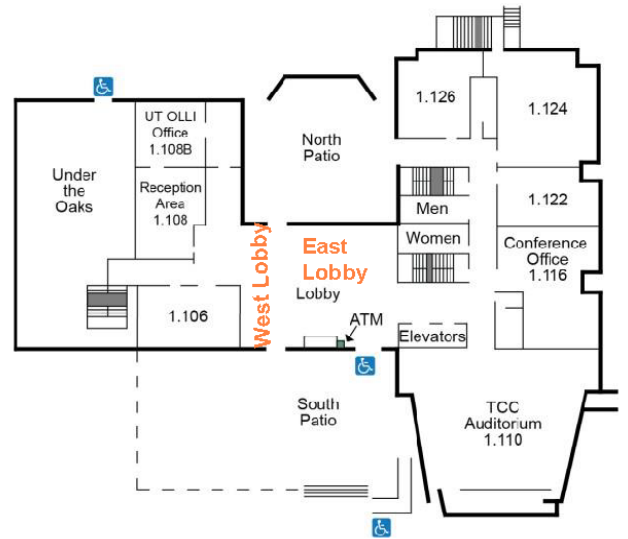
# VENUE DETAILS

All in-person conference sessions will be held at breakout rooms in the **Thompson Conference Center (TCC)**, 2405 Robert Dedman Dr., Austin, TX and the **LBJ Auditorium** (entrance through **Sid Richardson Hall**), 2313 Red River St., Austin, TX. **Registration and refreshments on June 12th and 13th will be in Sid Richardson Hall. Registration on June 14th will be in the TCC lobby.** The Poster Reception on June 12<sup>th</sup> will be hosted at the LBJ Presidential Library, located directly behind the LBJ Auditorium (about a 3-minute walk). A happy hour on June 13<sup>th</sup> will be held at the UT Sports Hall of Fame in the DKR Texas Memorial Stadium at 405 E 23rd St (about a 6-minute walk).

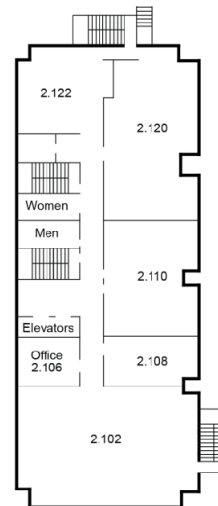
## LBJ Auditorium & Sid Richardson Hall



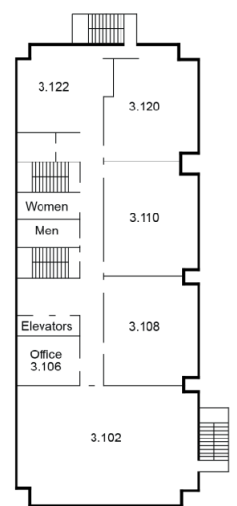
## TCC Ground and First Floor



## TCC Second Floor



## TCC Third Floor



## Parking

There are 242 complimentary parking spaces available on-site at the **TCC Visitor Parking Lot 40**, on a first-come, first-served basis, which is located at the intersection of Red River at Dean Keeton streets (2500 Red River Street for navigation purposes). Your registration includes parking from 8-5pm.

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**MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023**

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**COL Nathan Keller, USA, Retired, PhD, LCSW**

*Director, Student Counseling Center, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD*



Colonel retired Nathan Keller was commissioned as an Ordinance officer in the United States Army through the Army ROTC program at Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology in 1992. He delayed his entry into active service to pursue his Master of Social Work degree (MSW) at the University of Georgia, Athens GA. Upon earning his MSW, Nathan entered active duty in the United States Army as a social work officer in the Medical Service Corps. He transitioned to his first assignment at General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital, Fort Leonard Wood Missouri where he served as Chief of Community Mental Health. In 1996 Colonel Keller was assigned to the 85th Combat Stress Detachment (CSC) in Fort Hood Texas. During that time Colonel Keller commanded the 85th CSC (Forward) on deployment in Bosnia to support Operation Joint Endeavor where he managed the delivery of behavioral health care for Task Force Eagle. In 1999 Colonel Keller was assigned to the Army Medical Department Center and School and served as the senior social work instructor where he trained mental health technicians (91X) in behavioral health interviewing, counseling, and combat stress operations. In 2002 Colonel Keller was selected by the Army Long Term Health Education Program (LTHET) and earned his doctorate in Social Work from The University of Texas at Arlington in 2005. After graduation, Colonel Keller was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division Fort Hood TX where he served as the Chief of 1st Cavalry Division Behavioral Health Services and deployed June 2007 through October 2008 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During deployment, Colonel Keller delivered world-class behavioral health services to over 18,000 Soldiers across five different Brigade Combat Teams, one Combat Aviation Brigade, and one Sustainment Brigade. In 2008 Colonel Keller was hand selected to help stand up the Army-Fayetteville State Master of Social Work Program at the U. S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, Fort Sam Houston Texas. He served as Deputy Director of the program and was successful at establishing the program as the first Army Social Work Program to be accredited by the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE) . In 2011, Colonel Keller was assigned to the Military Correctional Complex at Fort Leavenworth Kansas as the Director of Treatment Programs. He served as the Health Authority for both the United States Disciplinary Barracks (USDB) and the Joint Regional Correctional Facility (JRCF) and led a multidisciplinary staff of healthcare providers that implemented the delivery of all behavioral health, medical, and dental care for over 1500 military inmates. In 2016, Colonel Keller returned to the Army Medical Center of Excellence, Fort Sam Houston Texas as the Director of the Army Social Work Program where he transitioned the program to a new partnership with the University of Kentucky and added authorizations for United States Air Force faculty and students. Colonel Keller is currently an Associate professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) at Bethesda Maryland serving as the Director of the Counseling Center.

Colonel Keller holds the Army Medical Department’s “A” proficiency designator for clinical excellence and is an inductee of the Army Medical Department’s Order of Military Medical Merit as well as the Phi Alpha Honor Social Work Society. His military commendations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal(4), the Army Commendation Medal(3), Army Achievement Medal(3), the NATO medal and the Parachutist Badge. Colonel Keller is certified by the American Board of Clinical Social Work. He resides in Rockville, Maryland with his wife Toya and his daughter Carsen.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023**

## **FEATURED PLENARY**

*Presented by NPR's Two Guys on Your Head, Dr. Art Markman and Dr. Bob Duke*



### **Presentation Overview**

In this featured presentation, Drs. Markman and Duke will explore the topic, *To Take Care of Others, Take Care of Yourself*. Individuals in the helping professions take on a tremendous burden of emotional labor in their daily tasks that can be hard to escape. Consequently, it is crucial for caregivers to also engage in a regular practice of self-care to remain resilient and effective. This talk will discuss the nature of stress and explore specific strategies for self-care.

### **About the Speakers**

#### **Arthur B. Markman, PhD**

*Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Psychology, The University of Texas at Austin*

Dr. Art Markman got his Sc.B. in Cognitive Science from Brown and his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Illinois. He has published over 150 scholarly works on topics in higher-level thinking including the effects of motivation on learning and performance, analogical reasoning, categorization, decision making, and creativity. Dr. Markman served as the founding director of the program in the Human Dimensions of Organizations from 2011-2018. This program aims to provide education in the humanities and the social and behavioral sciences to people in business, nonprofits, government, and the military. He spent 9 years as executive editor of the journal *Cognitive Science* and served as a member of the editorial board of *Cognitive Psychology*. Currently, Dr. Markman serves as the vice provost for academic affairs in the Department of Psychology at the College of Liberal Arts. Dr. Markman is also co-host of the radio show and podcast *Two Guys on Your Head* produced by KUT Radio in Austin.

#### **Robert A. Duke, PhD**

*Marlene and Morton Meyerson Centennial Professor, Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music, College of Fine Arts; Clinical Professor, Dell Medical School; Head of Music and Human Learning, Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music, College of Fine Arts; Director, Center for Music Learning, The University of Texas at Austin*

Dr. Duke's research on human learning and behavior spans multiple disciplines, and his most recent work explores the refinement of procedural memories and the analysis of gaze in teacher-learner interactions. A former studio musician and public school music teacher, he has worked closely with children at-risk, both in the public schools and through the juvenile justice system. He is the author of *Scribe 5* behavior analysis software, and his most recent books are *Intelligent Music Teaching: Essays on the Core Principles of Effective Instruction*, *The Habits of Musicianship*, which he co-authored with Jim Byo of Louisiana State University, and *Brain Briefs*, which he co-authored with Art Markman, his co-host on the public radio program and podcast *Two Guys on Your Head*, produced by KUT Radio in Austin.



# AT A GLANCE

Registration and refreshments on June 12th and 13th will take place at Sid Richardson Hall (in the same building as the LBJ Auditorium). Sessions will be split between the LBJ Auditorium and session rooms in the Thompson Conference Center (TCC).

## Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>

7:00-8:00	Check-in and refreshments (Sid Richardson Hall)
8:00-8:30	Opening Remarks
8:30-9:30	Keynote Address
9:30-10:20	Featured Plenary Presentations
10:45-11:45	Caregivers, Family Support, and Employment
11:45-1:00	Boxed Lunch
1:15-2:15	Family Support, Trauma, and Resiliency
2:30-3:30	Innovative Care, Social Support, and Ethics
3:45-4:45	Social Support and Cultural Humility
5:00-7:00	Poster Reception

## Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

7:00-8:00	Check-in and refreshments (Sid Richardson Hall)
8:00-9:00	Plenary with Drs. Art Markham and Bob Duke
9:15-10:15	Trauma, Cultural Considerations, and Innovative Care
10:30-11:30	LGBTQ+ Care, Peer Support, and Special Supports
11:30-12:45	Plated Lunch
12:45-1:45	Suicide Prevention, IPV, and Navigating Basic Needs
2:00-3:00	International Considerations, Domestic Violence, and Mental Health
3:15-4:15	Health Equity, Systems of Change, and Trauma
4:30-5:00	Closing Remarks
5:00-7:00	Happy Hour hosted by Tito's with a special presentation from Sound Off

## Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>

Registration and refreshments on June 14th will take place at in the Lobby of the Thompson Conference Center (TCC). All sessions and break-out discussions will take place at TCC.

### Discussion Groups

*All general attendees*

7:30-8:30	Check-in and refreshments (TCC)
8:30-10:00	Discussion Groups
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-11:45	Discussion Groups

### Military Behavioral Short Course

*Active duty service members who registered for this event*

7:00-7:45	Check-in and refreshments (TCC)
7:45-11:00	Short Course Sessions
11:15-12:15	Boxed Lunch
12:30-5:15	Short Course Sessions



# The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Endeavors



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## Locations

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915-320-1390  
EPclinic@endeavors.org



### Cohen Clinic in Killeen

1103 W Stan Schlueter Loop  
BLDG A, Ste 100  
Killeen, Texas 76549

#### Contact Us:

254-213-7847  
KNclinic@endeavors.org



### Cohen Clinic in San Antonio

6333 De Zavala Road  
Ste B101  
San Antonio, Texas 78249

#### Contact Us:

210-399-4838  
SAclinic@endeavors.org



**In Texas but not near a clinic? Contact us about our telehealth services.**

Transportation and childcare may be available upon request for in-person sessions.

**LEARN MORE:**

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SCAN ME



# MONDAY, JUNE 12

7:00 - 8:00	Registration & Breakfast at <b>Sid Richardson Hall</b> (same building as LBJ Auditorium)		
8:00 - 8:30	1st Cavalry Division Honor Guard, III Armored Corps, Fort Cavazos, Texas Opening Remarks: <b>Elisa Borah, PhD</b> , <i>Director, Institute for Military and Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin</i> and <b>Joseph Kopser</b> , <i>Special Advisor for Military Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin</i>		
8:30 - 9:30	Keynote Speaker Introduction by COL Steve Lewis, USA, Retired, PhD, LCSW Keynote Address: Evolution of Military Social Work <b>COL Nathan Keller, USA, Retired, PhD, LCSW</b> , <i>Director, Student Counseling Center, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences</i>		
9:30 - 9:50	Remarks from <b>Mrs. Tracy Rainey</b>		
9:50 - 10:20	Building Trust in Domestic Abuse Response <b>Lee Kelley, LMSW</b> , <i>Military Community Advocacy, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense</i>		
	<b>Breakout 1 (Hybrid)</b> <i>LBJ Auditorium</i>	<b>Breakout 2</b> <i>TCC Room #3.102</i>	<b>Breakout 3</b> <i>TCC Room #1.110</i>
10:45 - 11:45	The Role of Caregivers in Preventing Military and Veteran Suicide, <b>Rajeev Ramchand, PhD</b>  Campaign for Inclusive Care: Inclusion of Military Caregivers in the Veterans' Care, <b>Roxana E. Delgado, PhD, MS</b>	Dads Matter Too: How Father's Experience with Stress and Trauma Impacts Their Offspring Development, <b>COL Liquori L. Etheridge, LCDC, LCSW, BCD</b>  Using Peer Support as a Means of Improving Behavioral Health, <b>Garrett Boyer, PsyD</b>	Employment Supports with Veterans and Spouses with Hire Heroes USA, <b>Ross Dickman, MA, MBA</b>  Military Spouse Employment Pathways, <b>Crystal Cochran, MS</b>
<b>11:45-1:00   LUNCH</b>			
1:15 - 2:15	Blue Star Family Support Circles (BSFSC): Upstream Solutions to Crisis, <b>Brooke Balaalid, MSW, MA</b> and <b>Hope Petersen, MSW</b>  Developing Communities of Care: Ensuring Support for Military-Connected Children, <b>Rebecca I. Porter, PhD</b>	Supporting the Warfighter: A Family Approach, <b>CPT Jamie Webb, LCSW</b>  Strong Families Strong Forces - Supporting Military Families through Trauma and Military-Related Transitions, <b>Vanessa Jacoby, PhD, ABPP</b>	Shared Trauma and Resiliency and Peer Support Programs, <b>MAJ Tashina Miller PhD, LCSW</b>  Building Trust to Provide Care; Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division Wellness Program, <b>CPT Marquita Barr, LCSW</b> and <b>CPT Sarah Bean, LCSW</b>
2:30 - 3:30	Serving Those Who Have Served: Toxic Exposed Veterans and the PACT ACT, <b>Lisa M. Pape, MSSA, LISW</b>  The Intersection of Public Health and Social Work for Improving Community Outcomes, <b>Tina Atherall, DSW, LMSW</b> and <b>Keita Franklin, PhD, LCSW</b>	The Truth is Out There: Social Support Programs in the Military, <b>Zona T Lewis</b>  How to Be a Joiner to Find the Social Support You Need, <b>Jill Palmer, DSW</b>	Ethically Navigating Policies and Laws Restricting Self-Determination, <b>Lt Col Erika King, LCSW, PhD</b> ; <b>LTC Lataya Hawkins, LCSW, PhD</b> , and <b>Maj David Snowden, LCSW, PhD</b>
3:45 - 4:45	Exploring the Changing Social Support Needs of Student Veterans in a Post Covid Assessment of Academic, Social, and Career Factors, <b>Katherine Selber, PhD, LMSW-AP</b> and <b>Kelly Clary, PhD, MSW</b>  Integrating Peer & Social Support in State and Local Veteran Systems, <b>Blake Harris, PhD</b>	Soldier for Life Health and Wellness Overview, <b>MAJ Katherine Little, MBA, MHA</b>  Optimizing Care and Seamless Transitions for Service Members from DoD to VA, <b>Adrienne Weede, LCSW</b>	Strengthening Military Social Work Practice Through the Development of an International Perspective, <b>Mary Ann Forgey, PhD, LCSW</b> and <b>Karen Green-Hurdle, MPH, AMHSW, GD</b>

5:00 - 7:00 | Poster Reception at the LBJ Presidential Library



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# TUESDAY, JUNE 13

7:00 - 8:00 Registration & Breakfast at **Sid Richardson Hall** (same building as LBJ Auditorium)

8:00 - 9:00 To Take Care of Others, Take Care of Yourself  
**Art Markman, PhD and Bob Duke, PhD, *Two Guys on Your Head, The University of Texas at Austin***

	<b>Breakout 1 (Hybrid)</b> <i>LBJ Auditorium</i>	<b>Breakout 2</b> <i>TCC Room #3.102</i>	<b>Breakout 3</b> <i>TCC Room #1.110</i>	<b>Breakout 4</b> <i>TCC Room #2.120</i>
9:15-10:15	Incorporating Cultural Factors into Assessment and Treatment with Military Populations, <b>Brittany Hall-Clark, PhD</b>	Creating Awareness at the Intersection of IPV and LGBTQ+, <b>CPT Ashley N. Carrillo, LCSW and CPT Marlon K. Dortch, LCSW</b>  The Strength of Belonging: Confronting Social Isolation in the Military, <b>Adam Milano, DSW, LCSW</b>	Reintegration After a Traumatic Brain Injury in Military Personnel and Veterans, <b>SFC(Ret.) Victor L. Medina, MRC, CRC</b>  PTSD and Moral Injury Treatment with Veterans, <b>Wyatt R. Evans, PhD, ABPP</b>	The Healing Power of Service Dogs, <b>Michael McFarland, LMFT</b>  Adventure Therapy with Veterans: Building Resilience and Connection Outdoors, <b>Christine Lynn Norton, PhD, LCSW-S, CCAT, CCTP, CET</b> and <b>Blake Holbrook, BSW</b>
10:30 - 11:30	LGBTQ Service Members: Wellness and Retention, <b>Maj Kati McNamara, PhD</b>  Family Factors Affecting Servicewomen’s Wellness, Readiness, and Retention, <b>Lt Col Erika King, LCSW, PhD</b>	Peer Support for Military and Veteran Spouses: Research and Practice with the Veteran Spouse Network, <b>Elisa Borah, PhD and Abby Blankenship, PhD</b>  WOVEN: Delivering Effective Female Veteran Peer Support, <b>Cat Corchado</b>	Military and Veteran Culture in a Clinical Treatment Model, <b>Sheena Bice, LCMHC, MLADC</b> and <b>Dalton McLaughlin, Sgt. USMC</b>	Military OneSource: 24/7 Support At Your Fingertips , <b>Kelly Smith, LICSW</b>  Clinic-to-Community Engagement in the Arts, <b>Peter Buotte, ATR-BC</b> and <b>April Sullivan</b>

## 11:30-12:45 | LUNCH

12:45 - 1:45	The Causal Factors of Military and Veteran Family Food Insecurity, <b>Gabby L’Esperance, PhD, and Shanna, Smith, PhD</b>  VHA’s Veterans Homelessness Programs and Initiatives, <b>Shawn Liu, LCSW</b>	Welcome Home- The Vet Center Mission, <b>Lisa Fowler, LCSW</b>  Decreasing Veteran Suicide through Anonymous Mental Health, <b>William Negley</b>	Expanding the Frame Beyond Weekly Psychotherapy: Research and Clinical Application of Innovative Delivery Methods for Cognitive Processing Therapy for PTSD, <b>Bailee Schuhmann, PhD</b>	Addressing Interpersonal Violence through Trauma-Informed Intervention, <b>LeAnn Bruce, PhD, LCSW</b> and <b>Natalie Peterson, DSW, LCSW</b>  Expanding service for Veterans who experience Intimate Partner Violence or Sexual Assault, <b>Jenny Knetig, PhD, Amy Ashcraft, LCSW,</b> and <b>Melissa Stacey, LCSW</b>
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	<b>Breakout 1 (Hybrid)</b> <i>LBJ Auditorium</i>	<b>Breakout 2</b> <i>TCC Room #3.102</i>	<b>Breakout 3</b> <i>TCC Room #1.110</i>	<b>Breakout 4</b> <i>TCC Room #2.120</i>
<b>2:00 - 3:00</b>	<p>The Silence is Deafening: The Urgent Need to Talk About Afghanistan, <b>Lt Col Will Selber</b></p> <p>The Role of Behavioral Health During Operation Allies Welcome the Practice of Presence and Ambassadorship with Transitioning Afghan Travelers, <b>MAJ Lois Colwell, LICSW</b></p>	<p>U.S. Military Policies Related to Domestic Abuse: An Intersectionality-Based Policy Analysis, <b>M. Christine Highfill, LMSW, MA</b></p> <p>Partnering to End Domestic Violence, <b>LTC Andrea Creary, LCSW</b></p>	<p>Acceptance and Commitment Therapy to Promote Psychological Wellness Amongst Mental Health Providers, <b>CPT Qwanquita T. Wright, LCSW, LCDC, BCD</b></p>	<p>Understanding Human Trafficking Assessment and Intervention in the Veteran Population <b>Amy Ashcraft, LCSW</b> and <b>Katie Papke, LMSW, CAADC, CCHTVSP</b></p> <p>Weapons Safety &amp; Educational Enhancement <b>CPT Carolyn Kehn, LSW</b></p>
<b>3:15 - 4:15</b>	<p>Understanding VHA's Innovative Approach to Preventing Veteran Suicide, <b>Suzanne Shirley, LCSW</b></p> <p>Advancing Health Equity: VA's Approach to Enhancing Awareness of SDOH in Health Care among Social Workers, <b>Angela Giles, DBH, LCSW</b> and <b>Danielle P. Latimore, LCSW</b></p>	<p>Implementing eScreening in VHA to improve Well-ness for Veterans, <b>James Pittman, PhD, LCSW</b></p> <p>The Assessing Circumstances &amp; Offering Resources for Needs (ACORN) Initiative: Identifying and Addressing Social Determinant of Health Needs, <b>Jamie Halaszynski, LCSW</b> and <b>Brittany Trabaris, LCSW</b></p>	<p>CBCT for PTSD and MDMA Assisted Therapy for PTSD in a couples format, <b>Brandi Luedtke, PsyD, HSP</b></p>	<p>Military Trauma: Battling the Enemy Within, <b>Jamie Jones, LPC-S, NCC, MEd</b></p> <p>Substance Use Disorder Care in the Veterans Health Administration, <b>Catherine Barry, PhD</b></p>
<b>4:30 - 5:00</b>	Closing Remarks			
<b>5:00 - 7:00</b>	<p><b>HAPPY HOUR</b></p> <p>UT Sports Hall of Fame in the DKR Texas Memorial Stadium</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Tito's and Sound Off</i></p>			



# WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

Check-in and refreshments will begin at 7:15am at the Thompson Conference Center (TCC) Lobby.

## Discussion Groups

Available to all general attendees. Join fellow conference attendees for facilitated discussions that address key areas of research and practice presented during Days 1-2. Select two topical discussion groups to join.

	<b>Breakout 1</b> TCC Room #3.110	<b>Breakout 2</b> TCC Room #2.122	<b>Breakout 3</b> TCC Room #2.110	<b>Breakout 4</b> TCC Room #3.108	<b>Breakout 5</b> TCC Room #1.126
8:30-10:00	Suicide Prevention	Peer Support	Family Supports	Intimate Partner Violence	Trauma-Focused Care
10:00 - 10:15	<i>BREAK   Switch to different breakout room of your choice</i>				
10:15 - 11:45	Suicide Prevention	Peer Support	Family Supports	Intimate Partner Violence	Trauma-Focused Care

## Military Behavioral Health Short Course\*

Available to active duty service members who registered for this event.

<b>TCC Room #3.102</b>	
7:45-11:00	Welcoming Remarks, Behavioral Health, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment
<b>11:15-12:15   LUNCH</b>	
12:30-5:15	Suicide Prevention/Intervention, Diversity and Gender, Self Care, and Closing Remarks

**\*Note: a full schedule will be provided on June 14<sup>th</sup>**



# SOUND OFF

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**Free and anonymous.**





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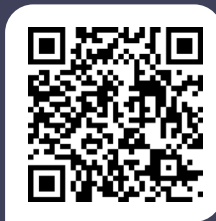
## UNDERSTANDING MILITARY CULTURE IS THE FOUNDATION FOR BETTER CARE & CONNECTION

When a former service-member steps into civilian life in California, Wyoming, Texas, or anywhere else in the United States, we believe they should have **access to a mental healthcare professional that understands them**, to education that addresses their needs, and an employer that understands their value. At Psycharmor, we have created a collection of courses that prepares **social workers** and other providers with the training you need to understand the military and Veteran community. You can support the military-connected community by **understanding how to connect with them**.

### START LEARNING

#### COURSES FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

- 15 Things Veterans Want You To Know
- Military Culture Basics
- Suicide Prevention and the Safe Storage of Firearms
- Trauma Informed Interactions with Veterans
- Treating Grief in the Veteran Population
- and more...





# A BATTLE WORTH FIGHTING



## SAVING TWO LIVES; A VETERAN & A SHELTER DOG

Determined to end veteran suicide, K9s For Warriors provides highly-trained Service Dogs to military veterans suffering from PTSD, traumatic brain injury and/or military sexual trauma. With the majority of dogs coming from high-kill rescue shelters, this innovative program allows the K9/Warrior team to build an unwavering bond that facilitates their collective healing and recovery.

**92%**

of our veteran graduates report  
a reduction in medication\*

**82%**

of our veteran graduates report  
reduced suicide ideation\*

\*Study conducted by Flagler College, St. Augustine, Florida

[WWW.K9SFORWARRIORS.ORG](http://WWW.K9SFORWARRIORS.ORG)



## LBJ PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY POSTER RECEPTION

Join us on **Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** at the iconic LBJ Presidential Library. Participants will have the opportunity to view posters highlighting research findings and innovative practices, network with other attendees, and enjoy complimentary refreshments.

**Brauner, R., Mahadevan, L., & Plein, C.**

*Boosting workforce resilience for military family support professionals.*

**Bylotas, E. J.** *Reconceptualizing military and*

*veteran suicide: A trans-conceptual model for social work practice.*

**Clary, K., Selber, K, Ortiz, R., & West, B. A**

*Snapshot in time capturing student veterans wellbeing: A photovoice study.*

**Cunningham R. & Fulcher, R.** *Whose fault*

*is it? Improving practice in combating guilt and blame in the aftermath of trauma.*

**Eison, L.** *Conducting Combat and Operational Stress Control (COSC) principals at the national training center.*

**Evans O., Holland, D., Rice, T., Kehn, C., Washington, C., Lovelace, R., Kilcrease, L., & Oviedo, B.** *Warrior Keepers.*

**Gurung, S. & Munoz, K.** *Joint Base Lewis-McChord Resource Finder: Utilizing web-based technology to expand access for behavioral health services by utilizing unit and community resources.*

**Hare, J.P., Borah, E., Hare, K., Ortiz, R., & Castro, Y.** *What gets measured gets done: Development of the Brief Military Spouse Self-Care Inventory (MVSSCI).*

**Jensen, T. M., Bowen, G. L., & King, E.** *The*

*Personal and Family Strengths Inventory: An assessment tool to prevent family maltreatment, promote personal and family wellness, and enhance mission readiness.*

**Joe, C. & Bodner, V.** *The impact of height/*

*weight policies on military readiness; literature and theory to inform future study.*

**Kidd, J.** *Traumatic event management.*

**King, E.L. & Hawkins, L. E.** *Moral injury risk in military behavioral health providers.*

**Masters, P. & Johnson, L.** *From Home to Across the Ocean.*

**Matthieu, M. M., Morissette, S. B., Clafferty, S., Degutis, L., Oliver, C. M., Adkins, D. A., & DeBeer, B. B.** *Veteran experiences with suicide ideation, suicide attempt, social support in safety planning, and suicide prevention resources utilized in the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

**Matthieu, M. M., & Waliski, A.** *Empowering Veterans Project: A VA community engaged partnered approach to implementing the national strategies for the prevention of veteran suicide in Arkansas.*





**\*Nakano, K., Kengo, T., Takasawa, K., & Ozaki, T.** *Mental Health in Japan's Self-Defense Forces: Resilience and "Haji."*

**O'Dell, A.** *Relationship building between family advocacy program and command.*

**Paykel, J. & Connell, C.** *THRIVE (Transforming Health and Resiliency Through Integration of Values-based Experiences): A positive psychology experience improves outcomes for both Veterans and VHA Staff.*

**Sandal, I., Williams, B., Goins, G., Patterson, W., Miller, G., & Teague, K.** *Veterans Health Administration-Uber health connect VUHC initiative.*

**Sharieff, A. Blankenship, A.E., Jacoby, V. M., Zolinski, S., Ojeda, A., Young-McCaughan, S., Peterson, A., DeVoe, E. and for the STRONG STAR Consortium.** *Preventing military-related separation distress through self-care.*

**Smith, S.A.** *Employer strategies for military spouse retention.*

**Taylor, A.M., Nance, P. A., Nance, B., DiMartino, B. & Yarvis, J.S.** *COVID-19 impact on alcohol use screenings and mental health referrals in primary care.*

**Voss, J., Thompson, C., Teixeira, P., & Mier, O.** *Over-the-horizon tele-behavioral health reachback in an expeditionary environment.*

**\*Watson, P.,** *Understanding the emotional response of being a young career of a combat veteran with PTSD: A narrative inquiry.*

**Wyman, A.** *Turning Inward: The key to healing after losing a loved one to suicide.*

**Yarlagadda, A., Johnson, A. R., Bickerstaff, C.M., Yancy, J. R., Preston, S. L., Etheridge, L. L., Maddalozzo, M., Ochinang, S.P., Jackson, R. A., & Clayton A. H.** *Major depressive disorder, suicides and role of dimensional psychiatry for triaging in primary care.*



\*Posters only available online. Scan the QR code to view these virtual posters.



(A-Be)



**Amy Ashcraft, LCSW**  
*Licensed Certified Social Worker,  
Department of Veterans Affairs*

Through her over 20 years in the Social Work profession, Ms. Ashcraft has worked in various roles including mental health, hospice/palliative care, oncology, primary care, and contracted work with the Department of Human Services conducting home studies for foster and kin care. Most recently, she has implemented an Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program and has found a passion in the areas of program development and transforming research into practice. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Social Work teaching both BSW and MSW students. She is currently attending Walden University in pursuit of her Ph.D. in Social Work with a concentration in Criminal Justice. Her research focus is on the area of Human Trafficking identification and prevention measures.



**Tina Atherall, DSW, LMSW**  
*Chief Executive Officer, PsychArmor*

Dr. Tina Atherall is a social innovation strategist with a concentration in non-profit and social enterprise leadership. In her current role, Dr. Atherall works with communities educating and advocating for critical support for those who have served and their families. She has embedded her career in the field of social work innovation and leadership and obtained her Doctor of Social Work from the University of Southern California. Her recent work focuses on the 12 Grand Challenges for Social Work to eradicate the public health crisis of social isolation, specifically the challenges of military families. Dr. Atherall has advanced certificates in nonprofit leadership, military family readiness, military social work, and is a Certified Daring Way™ Facilitator. She is an Associate Adjunct Professor at Columbia University School of Social Work, Simmons University, and the University of Kentucky. Her work to ensure positive health and wellness outcomes for military-affiliated communities led to her selection as one of only 49 scholars in the Bush Institute 2021 Stand-To Veteran Leadership Program.



**CPT Marquita Barr, LCSW**  
*Behavioral Health Officer, United States Army Criminal Investigation Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina*

In her current role, CPT Barr manages the psychological and preventative wellness for civilian and military personnel, embedded in 28 geographically dispersed field offices. CPT Barr has over 20 years of service in the military with experiences ranging from Squad Leader to Company Commander. In 2015, her passion to serve others propelled her into the world of Behavioral Health. She often collaborates with other support services, providing holistic care to service members and their families.



**Catherine N. Barry, PhD**  
*Senior Evaluator & Health Science Specialist, Program Evaluation and Resource Center (PERC), Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Veterans Health Administration*

Dr. Barry is a Senior Evaluator at the Program Evaluation and Resource Center (PERC), one of the three national program evaluation centers within VHA's Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention. She currently engages in the development, design and evaluation of decision support tools, programs, and metrics for mental health and suicide prevention efforts, including national initiatives, note templates, dashboards and metrics. Dr. Barry is a Sociologist and Demographer by training and has presented research on first and second-generation immigrant Veterans of the U.S. military to the National Academy of Sciences. She has published on VA mental health and suicide prevention program implementation, and her ongoing interests lie with program development, implementation and evaluation as well as design and evaluation of national performance measures.



**CPT Sarah Bean, LCSW**  
*Behavioral Health Officer & Primary Wellness Consultant, United States Army Criminal Investigation Division at Kaiserslautern, Germany*

CPT Sarah Bean serves as the first and only Behavioral Health Officer and primary Wellness Consultant assigned to the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division at Kaiserslautern, Germany.



## (BI-Bo)

She serves as both the preventative wellness counselor and the primary clinical behavioral health provider for CID Special Agents, HHD Staff, DoD civilian personnel and local national personnel for all of DACID in Europe, Africa, and CENTCOM spanning 14 investigative detachments in six countries. She has been appointed to serve as the Exemption Determination Official for all research projects and studies proposed by personnel within DACID. CPT Bean is also currently Chief of the Embedded Behavioral Health Clinic at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. .



### **Sheena Bice, LCMHC, MLADC, CCTP, CSOTS**

*Chief Clinical Officer, Forge Health*

Sheena Bice holds a Master's Degree in mental health counseling from New England college. She has work in community mental health, private practice and within the corrections system providing mental health and addiction treatment to female offenders. She currently works as the Vice President of Clinical Operations for Veteran and First Responder Healthcare in Manchester, NH. Her focus is on providing trauma informed care to our First Responders, Veterans, Service Members and their families. She served in the United States Marine Corps and is a proud Military Spouse.



### **Brooke Blaaid, MSW**

*Associate Director of Policy, Blue Star Families*

Ms. Blaaid has over 18 years of experience in the field of youth, community, and organizational development along with establishing collaborative relationships. She is highly conscientious with an excellent community service record. Ms. Blaaid also utilizes her prior experience as a City Commission, knowledge of politics and policy to drive policy priorities for military families and Veterans. Prior to working at BSF, Ms. Blaaid was the founder and president of B Consulting, LLC. Additionally, she has 14 plus years of research and program evaluation experience, retains six years of clinical therapy experience working with children and families in home-based and residential mental health facilities, and was a graduate professor in social work.



### **Abby Blankenship, PhD**

*Research Assistant Professor, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin*

Dr. Blankenship received her PhD in clinical psychology at Western Michigan University and completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in trauma psychology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio with the STRONG STAR Research Consortium at their Fort Hood site in Killeen, Texas. Dr. Blankenship has specialty training in the treatment of combat related posttraumatic stress disorder and provides expert consultation to community providers newly trained in Cognitive Processing Therapy. Dr. Blankenship has significant experience overseeing large clinical trials designed to prevent or alleviate posttraumatic stress disorder and other deployment related problems. Her research interests include using community based participatory research to improve prevention and intervention for a variety of presenting problems among active duty service members, veterans, and their families.



### **Elisa Borah, MSW, PhD**

*Director, Institute for Military & Veteran Family Wellness, The University of Texas at Austin*

Dr. Borah conducts research around the development, testing and effective implementation of mental health treatments and social supports for adults and children. Dr. Borah is also involved in research to identify effective programming and supports for military members, veterans, spouses and their families. She leads the Veteran Spouse Network (VSN) to engage veteran spouses in defining programmatic and research needs to better support veteran families. Through her work with the VSN, Dr. Borah studies how peer support can improve veterans' and veteran spouses' quality of life and improved mental health. Dr. Borah formerly served as lead evaluator of Texas veterans' mental health services, specifically examining the Texas Military Veteran Peer Network. She also previously served as director of research at the Ft. Cavazos site of the STRONG STAR PTSD Research Consortium, a Department of Defense research consortium at UT Health San Antonio.



(Bo-Co)



**CPT Garrett Boyer, Psy.D**  
*Director, Intensive Outpatient Program, Winn Army Community Hospital at Fort Stewart, Georgia*

In August 2014, Mr. Boyer began doctoral studies in clinical psychology at the Institute for the Psychological Sciences at Divine Mercy University in Arlington, Virginia where he gained training in group homes, outpatient clinics, inpatient hospitals, as well as a neuropsychology externship at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. In March 2017, Mr. Boyer enlisted with the Minnesota National Guard. In February 2019, Mr. Boyer was selected for a clinical psychology internship at the Womack Army Medical Center in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. CPT Boyer graduated with a doctorate in clinical psychology (Psy.D) on 11 September, 2020. CPT Boyer completed a post-doctoral residency at Fort Bragg in March 2022.



**LeAnn Bruce, PhD, LCSW**  
*National Program Manager, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Assistance Program, National Care Management and Social Work Services Office, Department of Veterans Affairs*

Dr. Bruce has served in her current role since 2016. 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 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 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.



**Peter J. Buotte, ATR-BC**  
*Nationally Board Certified Art Therapist, Intrepid Spirit TBI Clinic, FT Cavazos, TX; US Army, Retired*

Peter J Buotte completed 26 years of Active and Reserve military service in the US Army with 5 combat tours overseas. Since December 2016, he is a nationally board certified art therapist working with Active Duty military patients at the Fort Hood/Cavazos Intrepid Spirit TBI Clinic.



**CPT Ashley Carrillo, LCSW**  
*Behavioral Health Officer, 1st Calvary Division Sustainment Brigade at Fort Hood*

Captain Ashley Carrillo commissioned in 2017 and earned a MSW in the Army-University of Kentucky program in 2019. She earned a MS in Criminal Justice from Texas State University and a MS and BA in Psychology from Avila University. Prior to her commission, she worked in various social services agencies to include the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.



**Kelly Clary, PhD, MSW**  
*Texas State University School of Social Work*

Dr. Clary's research agenda explores developmental and cultural factors and consequences related to high-risk health behaviors, such as substance use, to improve the well-being of Military and Veteran populations. With this information, she hopes to develop, implement, and evaluate culturally informed measures and interventions to reduce health disparities. She has been a part of numerous grant-funded projects which have supported Veterans, military members, and student Veterans.



**Crystal Cochran**  
*Senior Director, Programs & Events, Hiring Our Heroes*

In her role, Crystal focuses on strategic planning, development of workforce pathways, and strengthening partnerships. Crystal serves as an advocate and subject matter expert on veteran and military spouse employment and educates on issues impacting the military community. Crystal is passionate about leading a team that is changing the landscape of employment opportunities for the military community. Before joining Hiring Our Heroes in 2016, Crystal managed several programs for the Department of the Army while on the move as a military spouse and is more recently a Bush Institute Scholar. Crystal holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Occidental College and a master's degree in counseling and psychology from Troy State University.



## (Co-DE)



**MAJ Lois Colwell, LICSW**  
*Social Work Officer, 254th Combat Operational Stress Unit (COSU) with the 30th Medical Brigade, Smith Barracks, Baumholder, Germany*

MAJ Colwell direct commissioned into the United States Army in 2009 and her first active duty assignment was as the Brigade Behavioral Health Officer for the 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey Korea 2009-2010. She was then assigned to Fort Wainwright, Alaska where she served as the Chief of Outpatient Behavioral Health from 2012-2016 and then served as the Brigade Behavioral Health Officer for the 1-25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team. During her tour in Alaska, she deployed to Kuwait to serve as the Theater Consultant for Behavioral Health in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2011-2012. She later served as the Officer-in-Charge of the Mental Health Section at the Joint Regional Correctional Facility (JRCF) in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas from 2016-2018. She was then selected to serve as the Chief of Behavioral Health and the Installation Director of Psychological Health at Fort Benning, Georgia from 2018-2021.



**Cat Corchado**  
*Community Relations and Partnerships Ambassador, Women Veterans Network (WoVeN)*

Cat is an advocate and champion for all women veterans and helps them to navigate the transition process from active duty to civilian life. Cat is an Air Force veteran with twenty years of honorable service. In addition, she has spent over 37 years in the fitness industry as a Personal Trainer, Pilates Instructor and a Cancer Exercise Training Institute (CETI) certified instructor working with ho works with cancer patients. Most recently, Cat founded Small Space Pilates - an online community where you don't have be perfect, you can wear your comfy clothes and turn your space into your own personal fitness studio. Cat is also the host of the podcast Sisters-in-Service -Conversations for and about women, veterans, military spouses, Blue Star/Gold Star families



**LTC Andrea Creary, LCSW**  
*Chief, Family Advocacy Program (FAP), Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, North Carolina*

In her current role, LTC Creary provides clinical oversight of the largest FAP in the Army. She oversees the development and maintenance of professional standards of service for 35 Licensed Clinical Social Workers and 19 paraprofessionals who provide evidence based clinical interventions for families involved in child abuse and domestic violence. Her previous assignments include Chief of FAP, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Healthcare Administrator, Winn Army Community Hospital Fort Stewart, GA, and Behavioral Health Officer, 3rd Sustainment Brigade, Fort Stewart, GA. She was commissioned an Engineer Officer in 2001 and served in the Army Corps of Engineers until 2008 when she transferred to the Medical Service Corps (MSC). Her awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2OLC), Army Commendation medal, (5OLCs) and the Army Achievement Medal (8OLCs).



**Roxana Delgado, PhD, MS**  
*Professor, University of Texas Health at San Antonio, School of Nursing; Investigator, VA Elizabeth Dole Center of Excellence for Veteran and Caregiver Research*

Dr. Delgado's research focuses on predictors and health outcomes in military caregivers, with an emphasis on the long-term trajectory of disease and illness. Her professional experience was inspired by her firsthand personal experience as the wife of a combat wounded veteran and Purple Heart Recipient. She is a nationally recognized speaker, author, researcher, and avid advocate for traumatic brain injury and the science of caregiving. She serves on various advisory boards to inform national policies and programs for Veterans and caregivers. A 2015-16 Elizabeth Dole Foundation Fellow, she is passionate and strives to contribute in meaningful ways.



(DI-Fo)



**Ross Dickman, MA, MBA**  
*Chief Operating Officer, Hire Heroes USA*

Mr. Dickman joined Hire Heroes USA in December 2015, serving as the Director of the Independence Project. He served as the Hire Heroes USA Interim CEO during the COVID-19 pandemic before assuming his current role in October of that year. During his 12-year Army career Mr. Dickman served in multiple leadership and staff positions as an AH-64D Apache Helicopter pilot with the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. He deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His awards include the Air Medal, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, and Combat Action Badge. He later served as an Aide-de-Camp at the U.S. Army Combat Readiness and Safety Center, and as a Tactical Officer at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. Mr. Dickman’s final Army assignment was as the Executive Officer of the Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic.



**CPT Marlon Dortch, LCSW**  
*Chief of the Behavioral Health Consultation and Liaison Service, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital*

Captain Marlon Dortch commissioned in 2017 and earned a 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. Prior to the Army, CPT Dortch worked in higher education as a student affairs practitioner, teaching and presenting at national conferences on politics related to race, gender, and identity.



**COL Liquori L. Etheridge, LCDC, LCSW, BCD**  
*PhD Student, Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University*

Colonel Liquori L. Etheridge is a native of Virginia Beach, VA. He received his Regular Army Commission in the Medical Service Corps from Norfolk State University in 1998, through the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). Colonel Etheridge received his Masters of Arts degree in the field of Social Work from the Army/Fayetteville State University, MSW program in 2009. He completed his clinical internship and Social Work Child and Family

Fellowship at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in 2018. Colonel Etheridge has earned his independent LCSW, NC; Board Certification Diplomate (BCD); Board Certification for Child and Family Therapy and License Chemical Dependency Counselor (LCDC). He is currently a 3rd year student enrolled in the Garland School of Social Work, PhD program, Baylor University. Colonel Etheridge is married to Christine Etheridge; they share two children, son Josiah and daughter Zohra.



**Wyatt Evans, PhD, ABPP**  
*Board-certified Clinical Psychologist, VA North Texas Health Care System; Assistant Professor, UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX*

Dr. Evans’ areas of clinical and research interest include combat and operational stress, moral injury, trauma-focused treatments, and resilience enhancement. On the topic of moral injury, Dr. Evans has published on definitional distinctions, interventions (including ACT, CPT, and PE), religious/spiritual struggles, and associated outcomes. He has provided training to therapists, emergency management teams, and healthcare policy makers on responding to moral injurious events and moral pain as well as facilitating moral healing. Dr. Evans is the lead author of *The Moral Injury Workbook: Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Skills for Moving Beyond Shame, Anger, and Trauma to Reclaim Your Values*.



**Mary Ann Forgey, PhD, LCSW**  
*Professor, Graduate School of Social Service, Fordham University*

Prior to her academic career, Dr. Forgey was a civilian military social worker within the U.S. Department of Defense where she served as the Family Advocacy Coordinator and Army Community Services Director in Wiesbaden, Germany. She has been the Principal Investigator on two research projects related to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) within the US military. In 2011, she developed Fordham’s first course in Military Social Work. She organized the first roundtable conference on International Military Social Work held at West Point in 2019 and is a founding member and coordinator for the International Military Social Work Consortium, a group of military social workers, educators and researchers from over 15 countries. She is the co-editor of “Military Social Work Around the Globe,” the first book published about military social work from an international perspective.



## (Fo-Gr)



**Lisa Fowler, LCSW**  
*Director, Austin Vet Center*

Ms. Fowler is an accomplished clinician with over 20 years of experience in the field of Social Work. She specializes in trauma focused therapy and suicide prevention with civilians, law enforcement and military. Ms. Fowler currently serves as the Director of the Austin Vet Center where she leads a team of highly skilled clinicians providing trauma focused therapy related to combat and military sexual trauma.



**Keita Franklin, PhD, LCSW**  
*Specialist Executive, Deloitte*

Dr. Franklin is a Social Scientist, who has led mental health and wellness programming across all branches of the military. She led the Suicide Prevention program as a Senior Executive in both the DoD and VA. She is also a PMP with an additional certificate in advanced research methods and analysis. She is a subject matter expert on issues impacting military families, has authored numerous pieces on military families and has served as a resilience/wellness subject matter expert; presenting testimony in congressional hearings, at federal commissions, and events with the National Academies of Science. Her expertise extends into areas focused on human behavior, women in the military, military families, trauma, alcohol abuse, and suicide prevention.



**Joseph C. Geraci, PhD, LMHC**  
*Lieutenant Colonel (Retired, Infantry, US Army); Co-Director, VA Transitioning Servicemember/Veteran And Suicide Prevention Center (TASC); Co-Founder, Resilience Center for Veterans and Families, Teachers College, Columbia University*

Dr. Geraci retired from the U.S. Army as an Infantry Lieutenant Colonel after serving for 20 years and deploying as a combat leader with elite Special Operations/Ranger, Airborne, and Infantry units to Afghanistan four different times since 9/11. While in uniform, he also served as an assistant professor at the U.S. Military Academy in both the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership and the Department of Military Instruction. He received his doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Teachers College at Columbia University. He teaches military

psychology to graduate students at Teachers College, and was a co-founder of the college's Resilience Center for Veterans and Families. He serves within the VISN 2 MIRECC as a licensed psychologist and is focused on studying and developing interventions that mitigate the significant suicidal risks that our Modern Warriors (some of them being his former soldiers) face as they attempt to reintegrate back into their civilian communities after military service. Within the MIRECC, he leads two national VA programs (Veteran Cultural Competence training and the Veteran Sponsorship Initiative).



**Angela Giles, DBH, LCSW**  
*Behavioral Health Consultant, Hampton VA Medical Center*

Dr. Giles has worked in her current role for nearly 16 years. She worked as a National Project Coordinator on special assignment, for the National Social Work Program Office, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for 2 years. In that role, she was the lead for Social Workers Advocating for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access (IDEA), which services over 18,000 social workers. She has co-authored several peer-reviewed journal publications and clinical practice guidelines focused on the Veteran population. In addition to the VA, Dr. Giles has been a faculty member in the Doctor Behavioral Health program for the College of Health Solutions at Arizona State University for 8 years.



**Karen Green-Hurdle, MPH, AMHSW, GD**  
*Behavioral Health Consultant, Hampton VA Medical Center*

Karen Green-Hurdle is an Australian Mental Health Social Worker with over 20 years of clinical, supervisory & executive leadership experience in the Dept of Defence & the Dept of Veterans Affairs. Her Military Social Work (MilSW) subject matter expertise, clinical leadership, academic performance, & commitment to her profession resulted in her being awarded three prestigious international scholarships, including the 2014 Mount Sinai Hospital Icahn School of Medicine (NY) 'Enhancement of International Social Work Leadership in Health Care' Scholarship; the 2016 Commonwealth Endeavour Executive Fellowship (sponsored by Fordham University, NY); & 2020 'Laurie Cowled Women in Leadership Scholarship' (QUT



(HA-HI)

Business School). Karen is a passionate advocate for promoting the specialist field of MilSW; is a founding member of the International MilSW Consortium; and is the co-editor of the international textbook titled, "Military Social Work Around the Globe."



**Brittany Hall-Clark, PhD**  
*Licensed Clinical Forensic Psychologist, Director of the Veterans Mental Health Department (VMHD), Texas Veterans Commission*

Dr. Brittany N. Hall-Clark is a consultant for the PTSD Consultation Program, a Texas-licensed clinical psychologist in private practice, and an Associate Professor within the Division of Behavioral Medicine and the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Her clinical specialties include trauma, nightmares, insomnia, sleep and anxiety. She has been certified as a Master Prolonged Exposure clinician and has extensive experience in working with active-duty service members and Veterans. She has also been trained in CBT for Insomnia and Nightmares as well as Cognitive Behavioral Conjoint Therapy (CBCT) for PTSD. For 8 years, she worked at the Ft. Cavazos site of STRONG STAR—a multidisciplinary PTSD research consortium—as a cognitive-behavioral research therapist for several randomized clinical trials focused on PTSD and related conditions in active duty military personnel and Veterans.



**Jaime Halaszynski, LCSW**  
*Assistant Chief of Social Work Service, Butler VA Health Care; Facility Based Project Assistant, National Social Work PACT Staffing Program; Lead, National Social Work Elder Abuse Tiger Team, Department of Veterans Affairs*

Jaime Halaszynski has been a social worker at the Veterans Health Administration for fifteen years and is the Assistant Chief of Social Work at Butler VA Health Care System, is a Facility Based Project Assistant for the Social Work in Patient Aligned Care Teams Staffing Program and is the Lead of the Elder Abuse Tiger Team. Jaime enjoys helping Veterans age with dignity and supporting the professional development of staff and students.



**Blake Harris, PhD**  
*Licensed Clinical Forensic Psychologist, Director of the Veterans Mental Health Department (VMHD), Texas Veterans Commission*

Dr. Harris is responsible for the VMHD as it strives to advocate for service members, veterans, and their families (SMVF) and align competent, accessible, and local mental health resources. Prior to joining TVC, Dr. Harris oversaw the development and implementation of clinical services for underserved populations in secured-residential and community-based settings. He has led multidisciplinary teams in mental health and justice settings and participated in mental health specialty courts. He has also provided training and clinical supervision to pre-doctoral and post-doctoral clinicians and instructed graduate courses in forensic mental health risk assessment.



**LTC Lataya Hawkins, PhD, LCSW-S, BCD, MS**  
*Assistant Professor, Army-University of Kentucky, MSW Program; Associate Dean, Army Graduate School; Medical Center of Excellence, Fort Sam Houston, Texas*

Lieutenant Colonel Hawkins holds a Master of Social Work from University Houston and a PhD in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin. LTC Hawkins enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard (TXARNG) as a medic in 1990. She later was accepted into the TXARNG OCS program and commissioned as a 2LT Military Intelligence Officer; she was honor graduate of her OCS class. LTC Hawkins served as a Intel Officer, HHC XO, and Assistant S2. While serving in the TXARNG she was attending the University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work. Upon completion of MSW, she directly commissioned into the Army Reserves as a 1LT, Medical Service Corp Officer. LTC Hawkins served in various positions in the reserves and worked full-time as a LMSW.



**M. Christine Highfill, MSW, MA**  
*Doctoral Candidate, School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Arlington*

Christine Highfill came to social work research after having invested her early adult years as a career military spouse. Her research centers on the policies that impact military families, particularly survivors of military-connected domestic abuse and their children.





## (Ho-Ke)



**Blake Holbrook, BSW**  
*Founder, VetRecOutdoors*

Blake Holbrook served in the United States Army Infantry from 2002 to 2005. With the 2nd Infantry Division, Blake was stationed on the DMZ between North and South Korea from 2003-2004. With the 1st Cavalry, he was deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom and was stationed in Baghdad from 2004 to 2005. In his service, Blake was the recipient of the Combat Infantry Badge, the Purple Heart, Paratrooper Wings, National Defense Ribbon, and the Iraq Campaign Medal. Coming home from war, Blake was diagnosed with PTS and TBI and had many challenges transitioning to civilian life. After stints in three VA Psychiatric Wards and a substance abuse rehabilitation, Blake found purpose in helping other veterans outdoors. He graduated from Texas State University with a Bachelors in English and Social Work. As the founder of VetRecOutdoors, Blake is bringing his passion for the outdoors to serve the Hays County, Texas veteran community.



**Vanessa Jacoby, PhD, ABPP**  
*Associate Professor, UT Health San Antonio, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences*

Dr. Jacoby is an Associate Professor within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at UT Health San Antonio, a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, and Board Certified in Behavioral and Cognitive Psychology. Dr. Jacoby is the program director for the Strong Families Support and Prevention Program on Ft. Cavazos (formerly Ft. Cavazos), which provides evidence-based PTSD treatment to military parents with a focus on improving whole family relationships. Her research interests are in the developmental trajectory and improvement of treatments for PTSD and other trauma-related disorders. She is a STRONG STAR Training Initiative Consultant for Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) for PTSD and Prolonged Exposure (PE) for PTSD. Additionally, Dr. Jacoby has worked with trauma-exposed children and whole families utilizing Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT).



**Jamie Jones, LPC-S, NCC, MEd.**  
*Program Director, The New Orleans Institute for Trauma, River Oaks Hospital*

With over fifteen years as a clinician, working in both the hospital setting and in a private practice, Ms. Jones specializes in working with clients who are survivors of traumatic experiences, who engage in compulsive behaviors, struggle with eating disorder behaviors, and clients who have experienced military trauma. Ms. Jones offers a number of treatment modalities including Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy, and Anger Management. In addition, Ms. Jones serves as a Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor (LPC-S), where she provides supervision to PLPCs as they work towards licensure.



**CPT Carolyn Kehn, LSW**  
*Social Work Intern (SWIP), Department of Behavioral Health, Fort Campbell, Kentucky*

Hailing from Brighton, Michigan, CPT Carolyn (Care) Kehn graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 2018 with her Bachelor of Science in Sociology and commissioned as an active-duty officer in the Army's Medical Service Corps. She subsequently completed her Master of Social Sciences from the University of Helsinki on a Fulbright scholarship in 2020 and her Master of Social Work in the Army-University of Kentucky program in 2022. Currently, CPT Kehn is a social work intern (SWIP) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, in the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Embedded Behavioral Health Clinic. Her academic interests include work-life balance, civilian-military transitions, feminist activism, and military families. In her free time, CPT Kehn enjoys coaching swim practice, reading, and trying out new vegan recipes.



**Lee Kelley, LMSW**  
*Director, Military Community Advocacy, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense*

In her current role, Ms. Kelley oversees the Office of the Secretary of Defense Family Advocacy Program and Child & Youth Advocacy, as well as DoD's Coordinated Community Response, focused on preventing, intervening and responding to domestic abuse, child abuse, neglect and harmful behaviors within



(KI-LE)

the military community. Prior to her assignment as director, Ms. Kelley served as director of Military Community Support Programs, responsible for the leadership, management and oversight of Military OneSource, Military and Family Life Counseling, and the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities Program. In summer 2019, Ms. Kelley served a 90-day detail as deputy director of the Defense Suicide Prevention Office to support integration of the public health approach to suicide prevention. Ms. Kelley is an enlisted Army veteran and licensed masters-level social worker in the state of Virginia. Ms. Kelley’s service in the Army and work with wounded warrior families inspired her to pursue a master’s degree in social work, awarded by the Catholic University of America’s National Catholic School of Social Service in 2015.



**Lt Col Erika King, LCSW, PhD**  
*Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership, The United States Air Force Academy*

Lt Col Erika King is a prior-enlisted, active duty Air Force social worker. Since completing her PhD at The University of Texas in Austin in 2016, her research has focused on policies and practices affecting 1. servicewomen’s wellness and retention and 2. military behavioral health providers’ wellness, ethical care provision and retention.



**Jennifer Knetig, Ph.D.**  
*Clinical Psychologist; National Program Manager Megabus 5304 Pilot Program, Care Management/Social Work Services, Department of Veterans Affairs*

Dr. Jennifer Knetig is the national program manager of the Megabus 5304 pilot program for Care Management Social Work Services with the Department of Veterans Affairs. The overarching goal of the pilot is to develop a comprehensive strategy to address intimate partner violence (IPV) and sexual assault experienced by Veterans. Dr. Knetig is a licensed clinical psychologist and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in PTSD at the Northeast Ohio Healthcare System (NEOHCS.) She has served in several clinical capacities with Veterans who have experienced interpersonal trauma. Jenny served the National Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) as chair of the Professional Development and Education (PDE) and Research and Evidence Based Practice (REBP) committees. Dr. Knetig developed a peer consultation program for the National IPVAP. She

was a national trainer, consultant, and member of the dissemination and implementation team for RISE, an IPV focused treatment developed at the National Center for PTSD. Publications include a focus on intimate partner violence and homelessness in Veteran populations and increasing provider effectiveness when serving Veterans impacted by intimate partner violence.



**Gabby L'Esperance, PhD**  
*Director, Research & Program Evaluation, Military Family Advisory Network*

Dr. Gabby L'Esperance is a qualitative research and program evaluator who is passionate about magnifying diverse populations’ voices through narrative-based research. In her current role, Dr. L'Esperance leverages qualitative methodology to better understand the lived experiences of military and veteran families. Through Gabby’s leadership emphasis on the value of qualitative methods in understanding military family life, MFAN continues to shine a light on the support military families need most. Dr. L'Esperance holds a doctorate in public administration with a focus in nonprofit management and research from the University of Nebraska Omaha.



**Danielle Latimore, LCSW**  
*Executive Assistant in Care Management and Social Work Services, Veterans Health Administration*

Danielle Latimore is a senior staff advisor to the Executive Director and advises on business and programmatic operations for the service’s continuum of programs. She is a licensed clinical social worker with over 20 years of administrative, clinical, operational and leadership experience in VA. She obtained her Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Virginia.



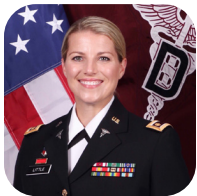
**Zona T Lewis**  
*Director, Military Community Outreach*

With more than 30 years of public affairs and military quality-of-life program management experience, Ms. Lewis directs communications, outreach and engagement across all MC&FP directorates and programs to support the well-being and readiness of more than one million military families. She is also responsible for the



## (LI-Mc)

office's digital platforms and online learning program, including MilitaryOneSource.mil, MilLife Learning, and more than two dozen other platforms. Prior to her appointment to director, Ms. Lewis served as an associate director for Military Community Outreach where she was responsible for outreach to the military community and stakeholders, and transformation of digital platforms to optimize program and information delivery. Ms. Lewis began her support to the military community as an intern with Navy MWR at Naval Air Station Keflavik, Iceland. For 19 years, she worked for the Department of the Navy supporting quality of life programs.



### **MAJ Katherine Little, MBA, MHA**

*Health and Wellness Director, U.S. Army Soldier for Life Program*

MAJ Katherine Little entered active duty in the Medical Service Corps with a United States Military Academy commission in June 2007, after earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Life Sciences. MAJ Little also holds a Master of Health Administration degree and a Master of Business Administration through the U.S. Army Baylor University Graduate Program in Health and Business Administration. Her military education includes the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Officer Basic Course, AMEDD Captain's Career Course, the Command and General Staff Officers Course at Redstone Arsenal, AL, and AMEDD Basic Healthcare Administration Course.



### **Shawn Liu, LCSW**

*Director of Communications, VHA Homeless Programs Office*

In his current role, Mr. Liu is responsible for developing strategic communications that enhance efforts to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans and their families. Shawn holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology degree from Florida International University, a Master of Social Work degree from Florida State University, and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with the State of Florida.



### **Brandi Luedtke, PsyD, HSPP** *Clinical Psychologist & Program Manager, PTSD Clinic, Phoenix Department of Veteran Affairs, Nellie Health Inc.*

Dr. Brandi Luedtke is a Clinical Psychologist and Consultant whose main interests include working with those impacted by

trauma exposure and PTSD and in the development and dissemination of scientific-based mental health interventions. Dr. Luedtke received her undergraduate degree at The Ohio State University and her master's and Doctorate degrees at the University of Indianapolis. She completed her doctoral internship at the Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center and has spent over the last decade in clinical, research, and leadership positions at one of the largest PTSD clinics in the United States. In addition to this, she has served as a consultant lending her clinical expertise in trauma-related disorders to develop various couples-based interventions and retreats, including working with Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and American Sniper's Chris Kyle Frog Foundation



### **Michael McFarland, LMFT**

*Advocacy & Support Assistant Manager, K9s For Warriors*

Michael is an LMFT who has worked within the military population for over 18yrs. Michael has provided mental health services to a wide spectrum of service delivery systems such as Inpatient, partial hospitalization and private practice. He has worked as the previous Kentucky State Suicide Prevention Coordinator where he managed a 3-year Garrett-Lee Smith Adolescent Suicide Prevention grant and he frequently provides community and professionally based suicide prevention training. Michael is currently the Advocacy & Support Assistant Manager where he and his team have built new programing designed to meet the needs of Warrior spouses/partner who are affiliated with the K9s for Warrior Program.



### **Sgt. Dalton McLaughlin**

*Government Relations Manager, Forge Health*

Dalton McLaughlin is a Marine Corps Veteran having served from 2014-2018 with 3rd Battalion 7th Marines in California. Following his discharge from the Marine Corps he served through the Green and Gold Congressional Fellowship as a Veteran Services representative. He moved on from this role to become a Veteran and First Responder advocate, working to increase access to behavior health services around the country.



(Mc-Ne)



**Maj Kati McNamara, PhD**  
*Director of Behavioral Medicine and Uniformed Services University Assistant Professor, Family Medicine Residency Clinic, 99th Medical Group, Nellis Air Force Base (AFB), Nevada*

Major McNamara provides psychological care to active duty service members, their beneficiaries, and retirees as well as behavioral health consultation to over forty Primary Care Managers. Major McNamara commissioned into the Air Force Biomedical Science Corps in 2012, serving as a psychotherapist and Program Manager before earning her PhD in Social Work through the Air Force Institute of Technology. She served as Flight Commander in a Family Medicine Residency Clinic, leading a team of 85 physicians, nurses, aerospace medical technicians, and administrators during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**SFC(Ret.) Victor L. Medina, MRC, CRC**  
*President and Founder of TBI Warrior® Foundation*

U.S. Army retired Sergeant First Class Victor Medina, MRC, CRC is a Purple Heart recipient. On June 29, 2009, while serving his third tour in Iraq, Victor was wounded when an explosive-formed projectile impacted his vehicle. He was medically evacuated and sustained a moderate traumatic brain injury (TBI), resulting in several long-term disabilities. His firsthand experience with polytrauma care provided a unique perspective. Victor faced challenges commonly experienced by Veterans with TBI. With the support of his wife, he decided to reach beyond his disabilities and advocate for other Veterans, becoming a National Traumatic Brain Injury Advocate. He worked with military and civilian leadership to help shape new healthcare policies: a mission that would eventually result in a Congressional Record. Victor is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and assist people with disability reintegrate into their communities. Victor is an advisor to organizations advocating for Veterans, and he is active in the community, serving Veterans and people with disability.



**CPT Adam Milano, DSW, LCSW**  
*Behavioral Health Officer, Fort Bragg; Clinical Social Work Instructor, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work The University of Southern California.*

Adam Milano is a Captain in the United States Army, Medical Service Corps. Previously, Captain Milano created and implemented the first embedded behavioral health position at the U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School and was an adjunct at the University of Nevada, Reno. He received a Doctorate of Social Work from the University of Southern California, Master of Science in Social Work from Columbia University, Bachelor of Arts from Middlebury College and is currently a part-time student at the Harvard Graduate School of Education pursuing a Master's of Education.



**MAJ Tashina Miller, PhD, LCSW**  
*Behavioral Health Officer, 3rd Security Force Assistance Brigade, Ft. Cavazos, TX*

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 was assigned to Ft. Riley Irwin Army Community Hospital working in Family Advocacy. Since 2012, MAJ 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 Multi-Disciplinary Behavioral Health Clinics, Installation Director of Psychological Health at Ft. Rucker, AL, and completed the National Capital Region Child and Family Social Work Fellowship at Walter Reed.



**William Negley**  
*CEO, Sound Off*

In his current role, William is working to reform the manner by which veterans seek out and receive mental health support. From 2009-2016, he served as an officer within the Directorate of Operations of the Central Intelligence Agency. His experience included significant time in Afghanistan, and he managed a wide range of counterterrorism, counterintelligence, foreign intelligence



## (No-PA)

and covert action efforts worldwide, with a particular focus on South Asia. From 2008-2009, William served as a legislative aide to U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison on national security issues, where he drafted legislation providing benefits to civilian federal employees serving in war zones and worked closely with advocates and constituents on legislative issues. William is a graduate of The University of Texas – Austin’s MBA program. He holds a Master’s degree in international relations and a Bachelor’s degree in political science and history, both from the University of San Diego. William is a native of San Antonio, Texas; his personal interests include real estate investing, hunting, and collecting passports of countries which no longer exist.



**Christine Norton, PhD, LCSW-S,  
CCAT, CCTP, CET**

*Research Scientist, Outdoor Behavioral  
Healthcare Center*

Dr. Christine Lynn Norton received her Ph.D. in Social Work from Loyola University Chicago. She has a Master of Arts in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago and a Master of Science in Experiential Education from Minnesota State University-Mankato. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Board Approved Supervisor in the State of Texas. She has over 20 years of experience working with clients in a variety of nature-based settings. Her areas of practice and research interest and expertise are in positive youth development; innovative, experiential interventions in mental health; adventure therapy; outdoor behavioral healthcare; experiential education; foster care support in higher education, veteran support, and international social work. In her current role, Dr. Norton helped launch adventure therapy initiatives for special populations such as foster care and veterans, with a particular focus on trauma recovery.



**Jill Palmer, DSW, LCSW**

*Chief of Behavioral Health, Endeavors*

Dr. Jill E. Palmer, has over 18 years of experience in treating trauma, depression, and anxiety in children, families, Veterans, and active-duty populations as well as leading teams of social workers and other medical and mental health personnel.



**Lisa M. Pape, MSSA, LISW**

*Senior Advisor, Office of the Deputy  
Under Secretary for Health, Veterans  
Health Administration*

Ms. Pape has extensive experience in the Veterans Health Administration, holding progressively responsible leadership positions. She has served as VHA’s Acting Chief of Staff for the Veterans Health Administration and as the Chief Officer for Policy and Services as the senior advisor to the Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Services. In addition, Ms. Pape led a game changing effort as the Executive Director of VHA’s Homeless Programs, leading the VA in reducing Veteran homelessness nationwide by 49 percent over 6 years. Prior to her position as the Executive Director of the Homeless Program, Ms. Pape served as the National Director of Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs in the Office of Patient Care Services. She was responsible for 234 programs that consisted of more than 8,400 operational beds that provided residential rehabilitation for those with substance use and mental health issues. She spent the first half of her career at the Cleveland VA Medical Center serving in progressively responsible clinical and leadership positions focusing on mental health services and services for homeless and at-risk veterans.



**Katie Papke, LMSW, CAADC,  
CCHTVSP**

*Project Coordinator, Department of  
Veteran Affairs*

Katie Papke is currently on special assignment to the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) National Social Work Program, where she is taking the lead to develop and disseminate resources to support communication about human trafficking, sexual assault and intimate partner violence. In addition to the VA, Katie has years of experience in community education and is a Social Work Program Adjunct Professor at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Katie has her own private practice and has a passion working with victims and survivors of those who have experienced human trafficking, sexual assault, and trauma.



(PE-RA)



**Hope Petersen, MSW**  
*Community Manager, Blue Star Families*

Hope Petersen is the Community Manager for the SSG Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program at Blue Star Families, a not-for-profit organization that supports and serves military families. Ms. Petersen is an Army Veteran, West Point graduate, and Truman Scholar. She received her Master's in Social Work and a Graduate Certificate in Gender Violence Intervention from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. She is very passionate about supporting the mental health of Veterans, Service Members, and their families. Her long-term goals are to help end suicide and sexual trauma in these communities. Ms. Petersen uses her personal experience as a survivor of military sexual trauma and her own mental health journey to empower her professional pursuits to help others.



**Natalie Peterson DSW, LCSW**  
*National Program Coordinator, Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP); Project Assistant, Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Megabus)*

Dr. Natalie Peterson joined the VACO team on special assignment January 2022. She is the VACO Liaison and consultant to 10 Megabus pilot sites, South Central Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center (SC MIRECC) and IPVAP Screening Tiger Team. Prior to joining the VACO team, Dr. Peterson was the IPVAP Coordinator at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center in Augusta, GA. During her tenure at Augusta, Dr. Peterson served Veterans, their families/Caregiver, VA staff and other external customers in various social work program areas including Primary Care, Acute Care, Geriatrics and Extended Care, Social Work Graduate Education and Veteran Experience. Dr. Peterson earned a Doctorate in Social Work from the University of Southern California and a Master of Social Work from the University of South Carolina. She is a licensed clinical social worker, certified VHA Green Belt and VHA Black Belt trained.



**James Pittman, PhD, LCSW**  
*Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego (UCSD); Investigator/Consultant, UCSD Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) Science Center*

Dr. Pittman's primary research foci have been the implementation of evidence-based practices to improve mental health services, and the use of implementation strategies to support adoption of complex interventions. His research training in dissemination and implementation science and mixed methods includes formal training in the highly competitive yearlong program at the Training Institute for Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health and the Cornell Research Career Institute in the Mental Health of Aging. Dr. Pittman is highly experienced using D&I frameworks, such as the RE-AIM framework to inform the reach, adoption, adaptation and sustainability of evidence-based programs. He is principal investigator of a multi-site VA Merit stepped-wedge trial to evaluate rollout of an electronic screening program.



**Rebecca Porter, PhD**  
*President and Chief Executive Officer, Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)*

Dr. Porter is a leader with more than three decades of military service. In her current role, Dr. Porter oversees a wide range of research-informed initiatives and distinct programs for military and veteran-connected students, parents, and youth-serving professionals. She leads the nonprofit organization whose mission is to support all military-connected children by educating, advocating, and collaborating to resolve education challenges associated with the military lifestyle. Dr. Porter earned the US Army Surgeon General's "A" proficiency designator, a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Clinical Psychology, and a Master of Science degree in National Security and Strategic Studies; she is board certified in Clinical Health Psychology (American Board of Professional Psychology).



**Rajeev Ramchand, PhD**  
*Co-Director, RAND Epstein Family Veterans Policy Research Institute; Senior Behavioral Scientist, RAND Corporation*

Dr. Ramchand studies the prevalence, prevention, and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders in adolescents, service



## (Sc-SH)

members and veterans, and minority populations. He has conducted many studies on suicide and suicide prevention including environmental scans of suicide prevention programs, epidemiologic studies on risk factors for suicide, and evaluations of suicide prevention programs, and has developed tools to help organizations to evaluate their own programs. He has testified on suicide prevention before the United States Senate and California State Senate. Other current areas of research include military and veteran caregivers (he has testified before the U.S. House of Representatives on military caregivers); the role of firearm availability, storage, and policies on suicide; and the impact of disasters on community health.



### **Bailee Schuhmann, PhD**

*Postdoctoral Fellow, STRONG STAR Training Initiative*

Dr. Schuhmann received her degree in clinical psychology from Nova Southeastern University. She completed her clinical internship at UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, where she provided evidence-based treatment for PTSD including Prolonged Exposure (PE) and Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT). Her professional interests include posttraumatic stress disorder and resilience in first responder and military populations as well as improving access to quality, evidence-based treatment.



### **Katherine Selber, PhD, MSW**

*Professor, School of Social Work, Texas State University*

Dr. Selber holds a Bachelors in Psychology from The University of Texas Austin, a Masters in Social Work from the University of Houston, and a Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Selber is a founding member of the Texas State University- Veteran Advisory Council (VAC) and was the faculty sponsor for the student veteran organization, the Veteran Alliance of Texas State (VATS) from 2008-2013. Since 2008 she has provided leadership in developing Texas State's program for serving the campus' veterans and military connected students. Dr. Selber has received recognitions for her support of many deployed units engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), and New Dawn. In addition, the U.S. President's Council on Service & Civic Participation awarded her

the President's Volunteer Service Award for 2006-2008 in recognition of her military support activities. Dr. Selber has published many articles and chapters and presented at over 100 conferences and workshops on issues related to veterans.



### **Lt Col Will Selber**

*Commander of 451st Intelligence Squadron, Fort Gordan GA*

In his current role, Lieutenant Colonel William Selber commands 240 Airmen, Guardians, and Civilians conducting full spectrum signals collection, analysis, and reporting in support of tactical warfighters and national decision makers. Prior to this assignment, Lt Col Selber was the Air Attaché at the United States Embassy Kabul. Lt Col Selber grew up in Austin, TX and received his Master of Arts in Political Science from Texas State University, San Marcos, TX and was commissioned through its Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 2004. Lt Col Selber has deployed for over four years to Iraq and Afghanistan. He's conducted operations with 3rd, 5th, and 7th Special Forces, the 101st Airborne, the 4th ID, the French Foreign Legion, and Iraqi and Afghan Security Forces. He's a USCENTCOM Foreign Area Officer and a previous Afghan Hand. He's married with one daughter.



### **Suzanne Shirley, LCSW**

*Director of Community Engagement & Fellowship with the VHA Office of Healthcare Innovation & Learning*

In addition to her current role, Ms. Shirley holds a faculty position with MIT's Catalyst Fellowship Program. In the role of community engagement, Ms. Shirley builds strategies to engage new markets as partners and customers of VHA innovation. These strategies incorporate a collaborative approach across industries to accelerate mission driven innovation that improves clinical care and lowers cost. In her role leading the VHA Innovation Fellowship program, Ms. Shirley strategically implements a variety of high-level experiential learning opportunities that aim to shape future thought leaders in healthcare. Ms. Shirley has been recognized for her leadership and service through awards such as 2020 Arthur S. Fleming, 2021 Service to the Citizen, 2021 Teddy Roosevelt, 2022 ACT-IAC Igniting Innovation and 2022 G2xchange Women in Leadership- Impact award.



(SM-ST)



**Kelly Smith, LICSW**  
*Program Manager, Military OneSource,  
Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary  
of Defense for Military Community and  
Family Policy*

Kelly Smith serves as Program Manager for Military OneSource and associate director for Military Community Support Programs for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Ms Smith is responsible for the planning and execution of numerous initiatives to promote the well-being, readiness and quality of life for millions of service members and their families. Kelly has served as an installation Family Advocacy Program (FAP) Manager for the Department of Army where she was responsible for domestic violence and child abuse prevention programming. Before joining the Federal workforce, Kelly worked for a non-profit agency providing post-adoption reunion support and home and school-based mental health services. Kelly continues to have a passion for reducing barriers to help-seeking and the study of mindfulness stress-based reduction. Ms. Smith is a wife, mother of two school-aged children, and proud daughter of retired Airman and sister of a Marine.



**Shanna Smith, PhD**  
*Associate Director of Research, Military  
Family Advisory Network*

Shanna holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Hardin-Simmons University, a Master of Business Administration from Liberty University, a doctoral degree from Walden University. Shanna is also a graduate of the prestigious Harvard Business School’s Young American Leaders Program and a graduate of the Leadership San Antonio program. She holds additional leadership certifications from Dale Carnegie and the Experience Institute. Her work has won several awards and honors including being named the Hardin-Simmons University Outstanding Young Alumni in 2017. Shanna served as Mrs. Fort Sam Houston in 2017 and was crowned Mrs. Military 2018 for her exceptional contributions to the military community. She was also named to the San Antonio Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” list in 2019. Shanna is a proud active duty Army spouse. When she’s not volunteering, her hobbies include spending time with family and friends, running, yoga, weight training, hiking, and travel.



**Maj David Snowden, PhD, LCSW**  
*Assistant Professor, Uniformed Services  
University of Health Sciences*

Major Snowden has served in a number of the mental health positions that include Adapt Element Chief, Family Advocacy Officer, Director of Psychological Health, and OIC of Mental Health. In 2014 he was selected for AFIT and earned a Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Texas at Austin. Upon returning to AD service, Major Snowden was assigned to be the Chief of Behavioral Medicine, and then the Flight Commander for the Family Medicine Program at Eglin AFB. Over the next few years at Eglin he concurrently served as the Specialty Medicine Flight Commander and HCOS (later MDOS) Director of Operations. He is currently serving as a physician utilization officer at AFPC and continues to offer PCBH care at the JBSA Randolph Family Health clinic. Maj Snowden’s research interests are generally military oriented and include the study of substance use/abuse, suicidality, clinical boundaries/ethics, and AF retention efforts.



**Melissa Stacey, LCSW**  
*Special Project Coordinator, Megabus  
5304 Pilot Program*

Melissa Stacey joined the VACO team on special assignment in January 2023. Ms. Stacey previously served as the Intimate Partner Violence Assistance (IPVAP) coordinator and then supervisor for IPVAP/Megabus coordinators at North Florida/South Georgia (NF/SG) Veterans Health System in Gainesville, FL. She has 10 years of social work experience throughout VHA, including Primary Care, Acute Care, Mental Health Intensive Case Management, and the Emergency Department. Ms. Stacey’s last role at NF/SG was as Associate Chief of Social Work Service, providing supervisory and program oversight of IPVAP/ Megabus, Inpatient Psychiatry, Emergency Department, and the Post 9/11 Military2VA Case Management program. Ms. Stacey earned her Masters of Social Work from the University of Southern California and is a licensed clinical social worker.





## (SU-WR)



### **April Sullivan**

*Artworks Director, Art Spark Texas*

April Sullivan has a BFA in Art History from UT-Austin and has been working in the arts in Austin, TX since 1996. She has been the Artworks Director at Art Spark Texas since 2002 and Curator of Access Gallery from 2009-2012. Art Spark Texas' Veteran program began in 2009 with an annual Veteran juried call for art and now includes classes in writing, music, visual art, theater and dance. April coordinates and oversees the program and makes it a priority to hire Veteran teaching artists. Her connection to the Veteran community includes being a member of the Promoting Connectedness Committee of the Austin Mayor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF), Co-Chair of the Central Texas Veterans Services Coalition from 2015-18, a co-host of KOOP Community Radio's Boots on the Air program on 91.7 FM, and curator of the Austin Veterans Art Festival (AVAFEST) in 2019.



### **Brittany Trabaris**

*National Special Project Coordinator,  
VA Care Management and Social Work  
Services & Office of Health Equity,  
Department of Veterans Affairs*

Brittany Trabaris has been a social worker at the Veterans Health Administration for fourteen years and is currently a National Special Project Coordinator with the Care Management and Social Work Office and Office of Health Equity. Brittany enjoys looking for innovative ways to help Veterans access care and ensuring staff have the necessary resources to provide enhanced care.



### **CPT Jamie Webb, LCSW**

*Social Worker and Behavioral Health  
Officer, 36th Engineer Brigade, Ft.  
Cavazos, Texas*

CPT Jamie Webb commissioned in 2018 to attend the Army Master of Social Work Program – University of Kentucky and was recognized as the National Association of Social Work's Student of the Year in 2019. Prior to joining the military, she acted as a research coordinator for the STRONG STAR PTSD Research Consortium and New York University at the Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center. She has over 10

years of experience in a variety of inpatient and outpatient behavioral health settings as well as extensive experience in community outreach and developing social service programs, as she served for nine years as the Advisor for Army Family Readiness Programs with 1st Medical Brigade at Ft. Cavazos. She is married to a fellow AMEDD officer, and lives with her husband and three children.



### **Adrienne Weede, LCSW**

*National Program Manager, Post-9/11  
Military2VA Case Management Program,  
Office of Post-9/11 Transition and Case  
Management under Care Management  
and Social Work Services*

Adrienne Weede is the daughter and daughter-in-law of an Air Force Veteran, and aunt of a U.S. Marine Corps Pilot. Ms. Weede is Lean Six Sigma Black Belt trained and has participated in multiple national initiatives, including the VHA Care Coordination & Integrated Case Management Initiative where she served as National Co-Lead. Ms. Weede earned her master's degree in Social Work from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA, and bachelor's degree in Environmental Biology and certificates in Health Sciences and Industrial Psychology from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA.



### **CPT Qwanquita T. Wright, LCSW, LCDC**

*Director, Intensive Outpatient Program;  
Director of Training, Ft. Stewart Social  
Work Internship Program*

CPT Wright is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in North Carolina, Certified as a Licensed Chemical Dependence Counselor in Texas, and Board Certified by the American Board of Clinical Social Work. She enlisted in the Army in June 2007 as a Specialist, she served 75 months enlisted and in commissioned in 2013 into the Long-Term Health Education Training, Army Fayetteville State University Master of Social Work (MSW) Program (2014 – 2015). CPT Wright completed her Social Work Internship at Fort Bragg, NC, Womack Army Medical Center (2015 – 2017). CPT Wright's past assignments as a Brigade Behavioral Health Officer include the 3rd Cavalry Regiment (3CR), Fort Hood, TX and the 168th Multifunctional Medical Brigade, and 65th Medical Brigade, Camp Walker, KO.

# Youth For Tomorrow

Our 200 acres campus is located 35 miles west of Washington, D.C. The unique balance of structure and freedom in our residential environments enables young people to discover new strategies to address challenging mental health issues and reclaim positive personal choices in their lives. The houses on YFT's campus are single family style homes meant to emulate a holistic and family like environment where youth can receive mental health treatment without the feel of an inpatient type setting.

## MILITARY FAMILIES

Youth For Tomorrow started serving military connected families and became a TRICARE certified program in 2021. Located in the heart of Northern Virginia, YFT was drawn to provide mental health services to those that have dedicated their lives in serving our country. YFT employs several veterans on our professional staff who are able to connect with the military families we serve.

## WHAT WE TREAT

- Anxiety and depression
- Substance abuse
- Self-harming behaviors or suicidal tendencies
- Academic struggles, excessive absences and/or failures
- Problems with authority figures, rules and defiance
- Frequent troubles with impulse control and risk taking
- Distorted thinking
- Limited emotional affect or rapidly shifting emotional states
- Difficulty relating to others or communicating

## SERVICES PROVIDED

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- Social History
- Psychiatry & Counseling (Individual and Family)

- Recreation Program
- Community intergration
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Deloitte provides pro-bono support, volunteerism, or financial sponsorship to many organizations to create direct and positive impact to the military community.



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## Questions?

### Contact Us!

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- ✓ Positive Youth Development
- ✓ Child Welfare
- ✓ Trauma-Informed Care
- ✓ Developmental Disabilities
- ✓ Justice & Corrections
- ✓ Public Welfare
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- ✓ Social Policy

## What Others Say

Military Times "Best for Vets" (2016-2022)

Recognized by VIQTORY as a Bronze "Military Friendly® Employer" (2022)

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JENNA MALONE, CAREGIVER TO A WOUNDED WARRIOR

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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<https://caregivers-homefront.org/>

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