





VISN 12 Mental Health Summit 2024


Resources for Community Partners



Resource	Description	Digital link
Make the Connection	Veterans and their loved ones talk about their experiences, challenges, and recovery. Videos, articles, and podcasts.	www.maketheconnection.net 
VA Community Provider Toolkit	Features key tools for working with a variety of mental health conditions and information on military culture and VA resources. Links to other VA consultation services.	www.mentalhealth.va.gov/communityproviders/ 
Community Care: Provider Education and Training Resources	VA has a variety of resources available for community providers to equip you with the knowledge needed to successfully provide care to Veterans. This page contains the latest education and training resources offered for VA community providers.	Provider Education and Training Resources - Community Care (va.gov) 
Suicide Risk management Consultation Program	The Suicide Risk Management Consultation Program (SRM) provides free consultation, support, and resources that promote therapeutic best practices for providers working with Veterans at risk of suicide.	SRM Home - MIRECC / CoE (va.gov)  Supporting Providers Who Serve Veterans

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<p>VHA TRAIN:</p>	<p>VHA Training Finder Real-Time Affiliate Integrated Network (TRAIN) provides a wealth of training and education resources for community providers. These offerings are no-cost, Veteran-focused, and accredited for continuing medical education. This is the most comprehensive catalog of public health training opportunities.</p>	<p>Home - VHA TRAIN - an affiliate of the TRAIN Learning Network powered by the Public Health Foundation</p> 
<p>Provider Self-Care Toolkit</p>	<p>This toolkit is for providers who work with those exposed to traumatic events, to help reduce the effects of job-related stress, burnout, and secondary traumatic stress. Working with trauma survivors is rewarding, yet such work can create challenges. Hearing trauma survivors' stories can be difficult and some providers may find they experience burnout or secondary traumatic stress as a result. In this toolkit you will find assessment tools, strategies, and resources to help you care for yourself while working with those who have experienced trauma or have posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)</p>	<p>Provider Self-Care Toolkit - PTSD: National Center for PTSD (va.gov)</p> 
<p>PTSD Consultation Program</p>	<p>Any provider who treats Veterans with PTSD can ask a question or request consultation about PTSD-related issues. Consultation is free. Watch our overview video to learn more.</p>	<p>PTSD Consultation Program - PTSD: National Center for PTSD (va.gov)</p> 

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<p>Trauma Informed Care</p>	<p>While the treatment of PTSD largely falls to the mental health system, professionals in other fields also interact with people with a history of trauma and PTSD. These professionals may also cope with their own issues around trauma. The resources here, including a number of toolkits, focus on trauma and PTSD in fields including criminal justice, education, and the clergy.</p>	<p>Trauma Informed Care - PTSD: National Center for PTSD (va.gov)</p> 
<p>VA Mental Health-Support for Health Care Providers</p>	<p>Health care providers, both inside and outside of the VA health care system, can play an essential role in helping America’s Veterans access the mental health support they have earned. Explore these pages to learn about the mental health issues that Veterans may face and access VA clinical training and resources that can enhance your delivery of health care and ultimately improve Veterans’ health and well-being.</p>	<p>VA Mental Health – Support for Health Care Providers - Mental Health</p> 
<p>Veterans Coffee Socials</p>	<p>Building social support systems with Veterans in the community is an important part of ensuring Veterans’ overall health. Veterans Coffee Socials enhance communication and foster bonds among Veterans and others in the community. They are a place to meet friends, find resources, and have fun with other Veterans and community members. These Socials come in many forms, and we encourage hosts to shape them based on attendees’ needs and preferences.</p>	<p>Veterans Coffee Socials - Fostering Community Connections - Mental Health (va.gov)</p>  <p>Veterans Coffee Socials</p>

Resource	Description	Digital link
<p>LGBTQ+ Veterans</p>	<p>Studies have shown that LGBTQ+ Veterans are at an elevated risk for stress. This stress can increase the risk for certain mental and physical health conditions, such as substance use disorders, anxiety, and depression. Learn more about how issues associated with your identity can affect your health and how to talk about them with your doctor.</p>	<p>LGBTQ+ Veterans: Veteran Resources - Mental Health (va.gov)</p>  <p>LGBTQ+ Veterans</p>
<p>The PACT Act</p>	<p>The PACT Act is a law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances.</p> <p>The PACT Act adds to the list of health conditions that we assume (or “presume”) are caused by exposure to these substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans – and their survivors – with the care and benefits they’ve earned and deserve.</p> <p>This page will help answer your questions about what the PACT Act Means for you or your loved ones. You can also call us at 800-698-2411 (TTY: 711). And you can file a claim for PACT Act-related disability compensation or apply for VA health care now.</p>	<p>The PACT Act And Your VA Benefits Veterans Affairs</p> 

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<p>Crisis Intercept Mapping</p>	<p>“The SMVF Crisis Intercept Map for Suicide Prevention is a tool that helps community stakeholders visualize how at-risk SMVF (Service Members, Veterans, and their Families) flow through the crisis care system.”</p> <p>The Objectives of Crisis Mapping include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess and improve community crisis care systems and services • Strengthen partnerships among military and civilian community stakeholders • Develop a tailored crisis intercept map for your community hand-in-hand with an action plan to improve crisis care services • Develop interagency protocols for crisis care coordination • Implement best practices in SMVF suicide prevention 	<p>Crisis Intercept Mapping for SMVF Suicide Prevention SAMHSA</p>  <p> Educational Sessions: Personal Information - Crisis Intercept Mapping Learning Community (cvent.com) </p>
<p>Military sexual trauma (MST)</p>	<p>Military sexual trauma (MST) refers to sexual assault or sexual harassment experienced during military service. Veterans of all genders and from all types of backgrounds have experienced MST.</p> <p>If a Veteran is having difficulties related to MST, we're here to support them in whatever way will help them best. We can help them learn more about how MST affects people. We can provide treatment that helps them cope with how MST is impacting their life. Or if they prefer, we can provide treatment that involves discussing their experiences in more depth.</p>	<p>Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Veterans Affairs (va.gov)</p> 

Resources	Description	Link
<p>VA Suicide Prevention & National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report (2023)</p>	<p>Provides information on prevention, coping and support, lethal means safety, and data regarding Veteran suicide. The National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report can be accessed on this site under the “Data” tab.</p>	<p>Veteran Suicide Data and Reporting - Mental Health (va.gov)</p> 
<p>VA Suicide Postvention Services</p>	<p>Suicide postvention builds upon prevention efforts by providing immediate and ongoing support to those impacted by suicide loss. You can contact your local VA and request to speak to the suicide prevention team.</p>	<p>Uniting for Suicide Postvention - MIRECC / CoE (va.gov)</p> 

Jesse Brown VA Medical Center Veterans Mobile Evaluation Team (VMET)

What is VMET?

MISSION

To support Veterans in crisis, help reduce the number of Veteran suicides, increase participation in mental health treatment, increase collaboration efforts in the community and support local law enforcement agencies.

GOAL

To deescalate the situation safely for all individuals involved and provide reasonable and consistent care. Applicable laws of the jurisdiction are followed using the least restrictive method to bring the Veteran safely to a VA medical facility. VMET utilizes special skills, techniques, and abilities to effectively and appropriately deescalate the mental health crisis while using the least restrictive measure

REFERRALS

Call VAPD dispatch 312-569-6505

OR

e-mail vmetchicago@va.gov

Include:

- Date
- Time of call
- Veteran's name
- Last 4 of SSN
- Date of birth
- Incident/Veteran location
- Calling party name and relationship to Veteran
- Call back number (of calling party and/or person making referral)
- Detailed synopsis of call/event

Contact Information

Investigator Rodney Williams, VAPD
312-569-5769
Rodney.Williams5@va.gov

Peter Sullivan, LCSW
312-569-5755
Peter.Sullivan@va.gov

How can VMET help?

- Can quickly respond to a crisis referral (generally within 60 minutes)
- Can provide immediate transportation to a VA facility for veterans who are voluntarily seeking treatment
- Work with local law enforcement to deflect veterans away from entry into the legal system and into treatment
- Can assist veteran with VA registration, appointments, and scheduling
- Can provide short-term (up to 90 days) follow-up and case management while providing a warm hand off to VA providers
- Can conduct wellness checks in the community for veterans with mental health concerns who have fallen out of care or are considered to be at risk

"Saving lives one veteran at a time."

