

Returning Veterans and their Families in Rural America: Selected Health and Behavioral Health Resources

General Resources:

Military OneSource: provides resources to help military families face everyday challenges 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-800-342-9647

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx>

Paving The Road Home: Returning Veterans and Behavioral Health; SAMHSA News, September/October 2008, Volume 16, number 5; http://www.samhsa.gov/SAMHSA_News

Remarks by A. Kathryn Power, M.Ed., August 11, 2008, Paving the Road Home: The National Behavioral Health Conference and Policy Academy on Returning Veterans and Their Families, August 11, 2008, Washington, DC

<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/newsroom/speeches/081108b.asp>

California: USC to train social workers to deal with military families, Los Angeles Times, Oct. 30, 2008
Beginning next fall, the University of Southern California's School of Social Work will become the first university-based social work program to offer a military specialization. The new educational track will train clinicians to understand the problems faced by members of the armed forces and their families. School officials point out that the number of therapists qualified to address military-related mental health problems is limited; at the same time, more service members are using mental health services and the suicide rate within the army has increased. Read more; <http://www.sprc.org/news/index.asp>

Link to Article:

<http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-me-military232008oct23,0,5253375.story>

Read the 2007 preliminary report from the American Psychological Association's Presidential Task Force on Military Deployment Services for Youth, Families and Service Members. Read more; <http://www.apa.org/releases/MilitaryDeploymentTaskForceReport.pdf>

Deployment:

Designed for "Kids" Deployment, Home/School, Where in the World?, Downloads, Playtime and more... read more; <http://www.deploymentkids.com/>

Moving: A big part of being a military kid is moving over and over again. Some kids think this is exciting and interesting; some kids hate it. Most kids think both things at different times. The good thing is that military kids get to have experiences no other kids get to have and will always have special memories. Learn more about moving as a military kid:. You'll find lots of information so you are ready for your move. Read more; www.defenselink.mil/mtom/

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Military families look forward to being together after a long deployment with many mixed emotions. Each family member will have different expectations. Every family situation is different. But, it is important to remember the needs and feelings of the returning family member, the adult at home and the children. .Read more http://www.aacap.org/cs/root/facts_for_families/coming_home_adjustments_for_military_families

Suicide Prevention:

VA suicide prevention panel completes draft report

United States Department of Veterans Affairs The Blue Ribbon Work Group on Suicide Prevention has praised the Veterans Administration for its suicide prevention strategy, which includes initiatives such as the Suicide Prevention Lifeline and the Mental Health Center of Excellence. The Work Group's eight recommendations include "more research, greater cooperation among federal agencies, and more education for health care workers and community leaders to further strengthen and share VA's ability to help veterans and their families."

To view the Executive summary of the Report of the Blue Ribbon Work Group on Suicide Prevention in the Veteran Population Read more;

http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/MENTALHEALTH/suicide_prevention/Blue_Ribbon_Report-FINAL_June-30-08.pdf

Telehealth:

Government Health IT:

"VA centers to coordinate rural veterans telehealth services": Peter Buxbaum; Exploring how best to extend telehealth services to veterans living in rural areas will be one of the key missions of three Veterans Rural Health Resource Centers to be opened by the Veterans Affairs Department on Oct. 1. The centers, to be located at the White River Junction VA Medical Center in Vermont, at the Iowa City VA Medical Center, and at the Salt Lake City VA Medical Center, will serve as satellite offices for VA's Office of Rural Health,

"The rural resource centers are envisioned not to be providers of services but rather enablers of systematic care for veterans in rural communities," Patricia Vandenberg, assistant deputy undersecretary of veterans affairs. August 2008 read more; <http://www.govhealthit.com/online/news/350542-1.html>

“Broadband flows to rural clinics: FCC’s telehealth fund is spurring small-town and rural health care providers to plan powerful broadband connections” In rural and small-town America, physicians and hospitals often struggle to serve far-flung populations with limited resources. That is the case for nine health care facilities in northwest Montana’s Flathead Valley, where hundreds of miles of rugged country between hospitals and their patients necessitates administrative triage.

In such environments, portable health records and telehealth capabilities are not just handy tools for clinicians. “Here, they do double duty as primary care,” June 9, 2008; Read more; http://www.govhealthit.com/print/4_18/features/350394-1.html

Traumatic Stress:

Extensive listing of resources for military families and their children: Read more. http://www.nctsnet.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=ctr_top_military

Traumatic Grief in Military Children; Information for Families; The reactions of some children and teens to the death of a parent or someone close to them may be more intense than the common deep sadness and upset of grief. In childhood traumatic grief, children develop symptoms associated with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Read more; http://www.nctsnet.org/ncctsn_assets/pdfs/Military_Grief_Families_final3.pdf

“Building Resilient Kids” This course is for school administrators, support staff and teachers to help all students meet life’s challenges with resilience, focusing primarily on students from military families. Read more; http://jhsph.edu/mci/training_course

Military Children: Military children are our nation's children. Living in either military or civilian communities, in urban, suburban, or rural settings, military children experience unique challenges related to military life and culture. These include deployment-related stressors such as parental separation, family reunification, and reintegration. Read more; http://www.nctsnet.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=ctr_top_military

The Youngest Children of Military Families;

Military Projects: Military Projects is committed to supporting the youngest of children from military families (ages birth to three); read more: http://www.zerotothree.org/site/PageServer?pagename=key_military

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