Becoming a Military-Friendly Clinic

The Story of One CSB



Brief Overview of CBH

- Founded 1971
- Catchment area includes James City and York Counties and the cities of Williamsburg and Poquoson
- Served 4,873 individuals in FY 2017
 - 12.7% increase from FY 2016
 - Average of 4,742 served annually since FY 2013
- Total Budget: \$16.9M

Need for Military and Veteran Behavioral Health Services

- The Veteran suicide rate in 2014 was an average of 20 per day; six of 20 individuals were receiving VHA services. (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2016)
- Estimated 11-20% of Veterans of Operations Iraqi
 Freedom and Enduring Freedom have PTSD in a given
 year. (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2014)
- Mental disorders are the leading cause of hospitalizations for active duty forces. (<u>Armed Forces Health Surveillance Branch, 2015</u>)
- Children of deployed parents are at an increased risk for behavioral and psychological problems. (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2014)

The "Military Friendly Clinic"

- The term "Military Friendly" has been typically used in educational settings (particularly higher learning)
- Clinic definition created by CBH at request of Virginia Department of Veteran Services (DVS)
- Provides specific criteria for use by SMVF population to identify appropriate services and supports
- Virginia-specific

Military Friendly Criteria

- An identified military liaison to provide an easy transition into services; treating active duty service members, veterans and their family members as a priority population.
- Clinical staff with direct experience or working knowledge of military culture, including training or practice in military cultural competence and trauma-informed care.
- Clinical assessments that address trauma or other servicerelated experiences.
- Linkage to the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA medical centers) and local military installations/medical facilities.

Military Installations – Local and Regional



Outcomes

- 574 direct referrals to the Military Liaison since 2015:
 - 76 referrals from Hampton and McGuire VA Medical Centers
 - 44 Government Defense Contractor referrals
 - Direct Pentagon referrals
- Services Provided
 - 58% receive counseling services (individual, family and group)
 - 23% receive psychiatric services (medication management)
 - Children, adults and geriatric populations all well-represented
 - Served 325 individuals with Tricare in FY17.
 - Also served individuals with Military One Source (EAP) and VACAA (Veterans Choice program)

Outcomes, Continued

- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training on bases
- Location of VVFS Re-Entry Specialist at the military-friendly clinic
- Training exchange with VVFS: CBH provides MHFA training to VVFS; VVFS provides Military Cultural Competency training to CBH staff
- CBH serves as conduit for VVFS to provide Military Cultural Competency training to other community agencies and medical providers
- Surrounding installations have created unique Behavioral Health Coordinator positions that are linking with CBH Liaison

Challenges/Limitations

Geography

Service Capacity

Physical Space

Data Collection

Interim Response . . .



... and Early Report

- 193 persons have been able to research and/or access needed services since launch in May 2017
- Setup and maintenance of the designated page is being supported by a private corporation

Expanding and Enhancing Services

- Develop Peer Support Services for service members/active duty, veterans and their families
- HVAMC Clay Hunt Act Outreach Team member
- Offer support groups and psycho-educational groups to active duty, veterans and their families
- Expand offerings of Mental Health First Aid military trainings
- Expand partnerships with Virginia Veteran and Family Support Program and Veterans Affairs

Lessons Learned

- Staff resources to get started may already be present
- The best advertising is word of mouth
 - (Actual experiences you have to "deliver")
- Military installations and veteran groups talk to each other
- Focus on Military Cultural Competency
- Be inclusive

Thank You!

• For further information/questions:

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