

Combat Stress Remains Even After You Return Home

Even after returning from a theater of combat, stress can significantly interfere with a veteran's ability to relate to family and friends.

Readjustment challenges can affect many other areas of daily functioning as well. The lingering effects of stress can be expressed in many ways including irritability, hostility, anger, trouble sleeping, and emotional numbing. Often times, work suffers due to absenteeism, fatigue, or impaired concentration.

Social Workers are experienced in working with people who are exposed to stress. We are trained to identify problems and provide appropriate services.

MIRECC
Mental Illness
Research,
Education and
Clinical Center



Post Deployment Mental Health

OEF/OIF START Mission

To provide specialized assistance and a seamless transition for veterans who have served in Operation Enduring or Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) and their families through the adjustment process of pre and post deployment.

Vision

Referrals are received from injury, deactivation, or discharge from the (DoD). Our work with multiple military services including the guard/reserve components, active military units, military treatment facility (MTF) transfers, Post deployment reassessments (PDHRA), family and military briefings, and any other OEF/OIF veteran that is self or other referred. The team works extensively with family members affected by pre/post deployment issues.

For additional information, please contact:

Salisbury VA Medical Center

1601 Brenner Ave
Salisbury, NC 28144

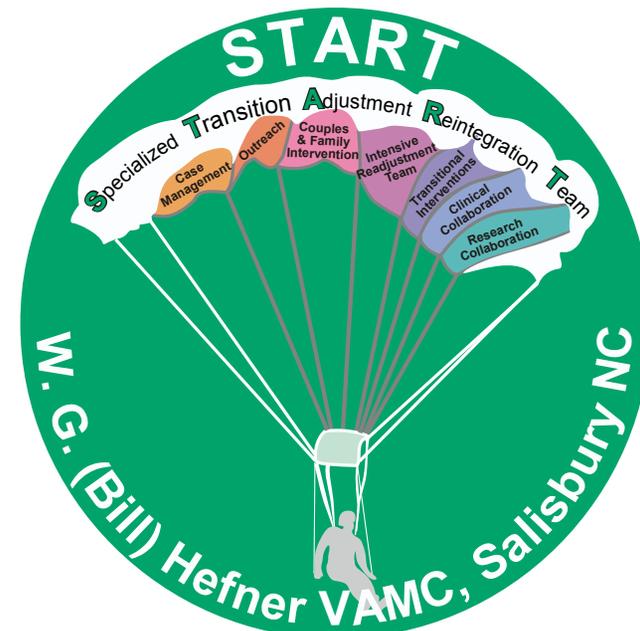
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VISN 6 RVOEC Returning Veteran Outreach, Education and Care



START Specialized Transition Adjustment Reintegration Team



contact your VA provider at
the Salisbury VAMC
for more information
(704) 638-9000
Toll Free: 1-800-469-8262

Clinical Collaborations

- ★ Functional Adaptation and Clinical Retraining (FACT)
- ★ Poly-Trauma Support Clinic Teams (PSCT)
- ★ Fully United Services Integrating Outpatient Needs (FUSION)
- ★ Substance Abuse Treatment (in and out patient) SARRTP
- ★ Military Sexual Trauma (MST)
- ★ Women's Health Program
- ★ Mental Illness Research Education & Clinical Center (education component)
- ★ Post Traumatic Clinical Team (PCT)
- ★ Specialized Inpatient Post Traumatic Unit (SIPU)
- ★ Vocational Rehabilitation (supportive and incentive therapy)
- ★ Homeless Program (outpatient)
- ★ Charlotte & Greensboro Vet Centers
- ★ Multiple Community Agencies
- ★ Multiple Federal Agencies

Research Collaborations

- ★ Recruitment Database for the Study of Post-Deployment Mental Health
- ★ Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury: Comorbidity and Longitudinal Course of Recovery
- ★ Evaluation of Psychological Symptoms for the study of Post-Deployment Mental Health
- ★ Assessing Needs of returning Operation Enduring and Iraqi Freedom Veterans Study
- ★ Blast-Related Brain Injury in OIF/OEF Veterans: Clinical and Neuroimaging Studies

START

Specialized Transition Adjustment Reintegration Team

Case Management

Case managers assist veterans in navigating the VA system. They provide veterans with information about services and benefits, and help them network with the appropriate resources. Case Managers also function as educators about readjustment issues and treatment options.

Intensive Outpatient

The START Intensive Outpatient program [in development] provides veterans with 4 days of training and counseling for readjustment and post traumatic stress issues. Classes and groups focus on addressing problems and using strengths to find solutions.

Couples/Family

Many veterans find that when they return from deployment, their marriage and family is in crisis. Counseling for couples and families provides assistance in mending relationships. Workshops for couples empower veterans and their significant others with strategies for building better relationships. Therapy assists couples and families with adjustment and change, helping to create positive solutions.

Groups

Education and therapy groups provide veterans and their family members a chance to learn about readjustment issues. Process groups give veterans the opportunity to support other vets and find positive coping skills to overcome the hurdles of returning from deployment.

Outreach

- ★ Participation in the PDHRA events held at National Guard Units
- ★ Offer pre and post deployment services and provide ongoing education to the National Guard members and their families
- ★ Collaboration with the Greensboro and Charlotte Vet Center Staff to provide education and ongoing services to veterans
- ★ Collaboration with the County Service Representatives
- ★ Provide education and information about the needs of returning combat veterans to other organizations and agencies in the communities where the veterans live
- ★ Provide information, education and training to other health and mental health professionals who may be working with the veterans
- ★ Utilizing multi media techniques for community awareness of services offered to returning combat veterans
- ★ Provide education to VAMC employees utilizing The Face of the New Veteran during new employee orientation, educational presentations and through the Net Six employee training
- ★ Provide individual and group counseling at CBOC and satellite clinics
- ★ Educational Institutions
- ★ Education for employers of veterans such as county government agencies and employee assistance programs