

The 3rd Annual Military Veterans Conference *Helping Military Families Thrive and Reconnect*

Jointly Provided By: Western Massachusetts Veteran Service Officer Association, Western Massachusetts Veterans Outreach Project, HomeFront Strong, US Department of Veterans Affairs, Baystate Health Department of Surgery, Division of Trauma, Acute Care Surgery & SICU, and Baystate Continuing Interprofessional Education

Western Massachusetts
Veterans
Outreach Project

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Baystate Health Education Center,
361 Whitney Avenue Holyoke, MA 01040

Choose VA



WHY ATTEND?

About half of all military veterans in the United States do not receive care in the federal Veterans Health Administration. Nearly all family members of veterans rely on the civilian healthcare system and on community social services for support. The ability to provide effective, culturally competent care for this unique population is essential for health care providers.

Factors such as deployment, combat exposure and military-specific environmental exposures create a set of health needs unique to the patient who is a military veteran or for a family member of a veteran.

GOAL:

The goal of this symposium is to build the capacity of our region's emergency personnel, first responders and mental health workforce to better serve our returning veterans and their families.

AUDIENCE:

This conference will provide training to health care providers, first responders, ED staff and social services professionals.

LEARNER OBJECTIVES:

After participating in this educational activity, attendees should be able to:

- Provide examples of challenges facing today's military families.
- Describe ways to better understand and provide solutions to strengthen military families.
- Identify methods to build better support networks for military families.
- Define the various components of military and veteran life in Massachusetts.
- Describe the various laws and entitlements as they apply to family members.
- Discuss and describe the financial challenges that family members face.
- Utilize the resources that are available to assist family members.
- Demonstrate knowledge of prevalent physical health conditions facing veterans.
- Describe ways that these physical health issues affect family members.
- Reveal knowledge about toxic exposures, substance use disorder and co-occurring conditions.
- Demonstrate understanding of the role of caregiving by family members.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the behavioral health conditions facing veterans including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)/post-traumatic stress (PTS) and reveal ways that these behavioral health issues affect family members.
- Demonstrate knowledge associated with suicide risk and prevention.
- Demonstrate knowledge associated with intimate partner violence.
- Describe optimal treatment interventions and the role of caregiving.
- Identify ways in which stressors associated with the military lifecycle impact children at different developmental stages in military and veteran families.
- Identify developmentally appropriate strategies for assisting families with children at different stages of the military lifecycle.

FACULTY DISCLOSURE

The design and content of Baystate Continuing Interprofessional Education (CE) activities support quality improvement in healthcare and provide fair and balanced views of therapeutic options. Any relevant financial relationships are mitigated prior to the educational activity.

None of the planners or faculty for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Jeffrey Chin, MSW, LLD

Jeffrey Chin, is the Executive Director, Blue Star Families of New England. A New England native, growing up in Rhode Island and living most of his adult life in Massachusetts. His grandfather was a World War II Veteran, and inspired Jeffrey to a life of service. He is a proud Navy Reserve Officer, having done tours in the Middle East, at the Pentagon, and in units across the country. In 2018, Jeffrey was mobilized for a deployment to Afghanistan. It was during this time that it became so evident to him and his family the value of support services for military families and service members. His background as a clinical social worker and nonprofit executive will aid in the growth and vitality of the New England Chapter.

Program Schedule

7:30am	Registration, Continental Breakfast & Community Exhibits
8:30am	Welcome and Introduction <i>Tyler Putnam, MD, FACS, FCCM, Colonel USAF, retired</i> Medical Director Surgical Trauma Intensive Care Program Director Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Baystate Medical Center
8:45am	Resiliency through Community Building - Lessons from Military Lifestyles <i>Jeffery Chin, MSW, LLD (Keynote Speaker)</i> Executive Director, Blue Star Families of New England
9:30am	Break and Mindfulness Practicum <i>Michelle Tarca, LCSW</i> Licensed social worker Director of Psychological Health Massachusetts Air National Guard <i>Evangeline Beth Williams, LICSW</i> Director of Psychological Health Master Resilience Trainer (MRT) Westover Air Reserve Base
9:45am	The Military and Veteran Family Member. Who are they? <i>Kelly McAllister, PsyD</i> Licensed Clinical Psychologist Director, Springfield Vet Center, United States Department of Veterans Affairs <i>Stephanie Shaw</i> Director of Veterans Services City of Chicopee



JOINT ACCREDITATION™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Credits:

In support of improving patient care, Baystate Health is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Physicians

Baystate Health designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses

Baystate Health designates this activity for 5.75 contact hours for nurses. Nurses should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in this activity.

Social Workers (ASWB)

Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE Program)

As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Baystate Health is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organization, not individual courses are approved under this program. Baystate maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive 5.75 continuing education credit(s).

OEMS credit has been applied for and is pending



IPCE CREDIT™

This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team.

Registration & Tuition Information:

Tuition: \$75

Includes continental breakfast, refreshment break and lunch.

To register for this course:

1. Log onto www.education.baystatehealth.org
2. Click Log in (upper right corner)
 - *Baystate Employees and medical staff:* log in using their network username and password.
 - *All Others:* If you already have an account, log in under the visitor section using the username and password you created. If you do not have an account, create a new account under the visitor section.
3. Click on the Conferences tab
4. Select the title of the conference
5. In the Register tab, Click Add to Cart
6. To complete the process, follow the directions below for your payment type



PAYMENT INFORMATION

Credit Card

1. Enter your information in the Billing section
2. Review order
3. Submit order, then enter charge card information
4. Pay

Cancellations:

Please read our cancellation policy on our website

www.education.baystatehealth.org For additional information, call Baystate Continuing Interprofessional Education at 413-322-4242.

Specific Aids or Services:

Please call Baystate Continuing Interprofessional Education at 413-322-4242 if, under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you require specific aids or services during your visit to this continuing education program.

10:30am Break and Mindfulness Practicum

Michelle Tarca, LCSW
*Licensed social worker
Director of Psychological Health
Massachusetts Air National Guard*

Evangeline Beth Williams, LICSW
*Director of Psychological Health
Master Resilience Trainer (MRT)
Westover Air Reserve Base*

10:45am Financial Obstacles and Barriers to Wellness

Daniel Nye, BA
*Veterans Service Officer
Central Hampshire Veterans' Services*

Stephanie Shaw
*Director of Veterans Services
City of Chicopee*

Steve Connor
Director of Central Hampshire Veterans' Services

12:00pm Break for Lunch & Visit Meditation Room

1:00pm Health & Wellness Panel Discussion on Physical Health

Steve Connor (moderator)
Director of Central Hampshire Veterans' Services

Panelists:

Lisa Coughlin, FNP
*Family Nurse Practitioner
Women's Health Medical Director
VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System*

Manny Paula, LICSW and ADAPT
*Substance Abuse Program Manager
66th Medical Squadron, Hanscom Air Force Base*

Todd Hynek, LICSW
*PGCSS Coordinator
VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System*

2:00pm Health & Wellness Panel Discussion on Behavioral Health

Jeffrey McCarthy, PsyD (moderator)
*Clinical Psychologist
VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System*

Panelists:

Kathryn Basham, PhD, LICSW
*Professor Emerita
Smith College School for Social Work*

Christine Dunn, MSW, LICSW
*Women Veterans Program Outreach Coordinator
VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System*

Kate Nye, MSW, LICSW
*Suicide Prevention Coordinator
VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System*

3:00pm Break with Mindfulness Minute

3:15pm The Military Child Discussion

Jennifer Baublitz, MA/CAGS (moderator)
*MA School Counseling, CAGS Resilience
Executive Director, HomeFront Strong, and Adjunct Professor,
Assumption College*

Panelists:

Melanie Casineau
*104th Fighter Wing, Massachusetts Air National Guard, Yellow
Ribbon Coordinator, USAF Retired, Military Spouse*

Kayla Linderme, PsyD
*Clinical Psychologist
VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System*

Wesley Sanders, PhD
*Staff Psychologist
Home Base
Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School*

4:15pm Closing Remarks

4:30pm Adjourn