



Maryland's Commitment to Veterans

Joy Ashcraft

July 29, 2021



Maryland's Commitment to Veterans At a Glance

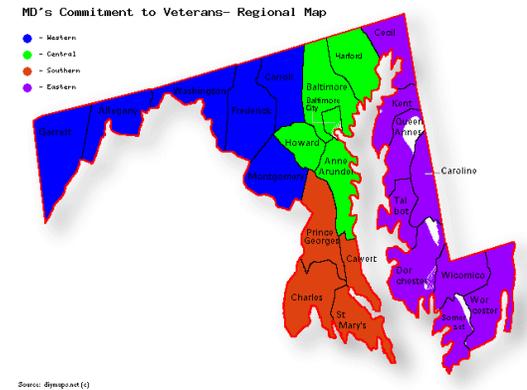
- Program within the Maryland Department of Health
- Work closely with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; Maryland's Department of Health, Department of Veterans Affairs; Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Higher Education Commission; and many others
- Assist Service Members, Veterans and their Families (SMVF) with coordinating behavioral health services, including mental health and substance use services
- Provide information and referrals related to employment, education, housing, VA benefits, and behavioral health
- Conduct outreach and training to/for: SMVF, providers, and community groups about MCV, suicide prevention, peer support, etc.

Eligibility

- Must reside in Maryland
- Must have served or currently be serving in the US Armed Services (Active duty, Guard or Reserve) or a family member of someone who has served or is currently serving
- **We support regardless of discharge status**

Our Team

- Joy Ashcraft, LMSW
Director, Maryland's Commitment to Veterans
- Angel Powell
Social Media & Central Region Resource Coordinator
Serving: Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford, and Howard Counties
- Dina Karpf
Crisis & Eastern Region Resource Coordinator
Serving: Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester Counties
- David Galloway
Training & Western Region Resource Coordinator
Serving: Garrett, Allegany, Frederick, Carroll, Montgomery, and Washington Counties
- Richard Reed
Data & Central Region Resource Coordinator
Serving: Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties



What We Offer

- Referral assistance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for an unlimited number of resources
- SMVF can connect via our hotline, email, Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram
- One Regional Resource Coordinator (RRC) per region – Central, Eastern, Southern, & Western
- A personal relationship -- We try to link you to the same RRC each time you contact us. We want you to feel heard, understood, and connected.

What We Provide

- Connection with mental health and substance use services
- Case management and Referral services
- Peer support
- One-time Crisis Funding
- Training and Education

Behavioral Health Coordination

- Mental health and substance abuse services are properly screened for appropriate referrals
- If immediate services are not available through U.S. Veteran Affairs, or an alternative provider is preferred, then we will connect you to additional services in the community through state and local behavioral health systems and nonprofits
- Service Members and Veterans are designated as a special population under the Public Mental Health System, which means they do not need to meet typical eligibility requirements such as income to qualify for uninsured services through Optum

Case Management & Referral Services

- Regional Resource Coordinators (RRCs) will coordinate service needs with your VA Case Manager (if you have one) with service providers
- RRCs provide information and referrals related to: employment, education, housing, VA benefits, food programs, adaptive equipment, and many others

Peer Support via Operation Roll Call

During these uncertain times.....

Maryland's Commitment to Veterans is here to help.

Military Veterans and/or Veteran's family members residing in Maryland can sign up for the free MCV Operation Roll Call program to register for a once a week or bi-weekly call with a Regional Resource Coordinator.

If you would like to register

Call the MCV 24/7 Hotline
1(877) 770 4801



One-Time Crisis Funding

Maryland's Commitment to Veterans currently has crisis funds available for Service Members and Veterans who require assistance with behavioral health or behavioral health supportive services. Service Members and Veterans must meet program requirements to receive a one-time grant of up to \$500.

Service Members and Veterans requesting assistance, are required to complete the Crisis Referral Intake form and provide the below listed documents:

- Copy of your DD214 or NGB-22
- Copy of your delinquent utility bill, eviction notice, doctor bill, etc.
- W-9 for businesses requiring payment
- Copy of referral letter(s) from other organizations you are working with to correct the situation
- Contact information for your behavioral health provider

FAQs Regarding Crisis Funding

- **Do you pay for transportation?**
No, we do not pay for transportation unless it is for a VA behavioral health assessment.
- **Is there a length of service or discharge status requirement for eligibility?**
No, we consider each application regardless of discharge status or length of service.
- **Can you send me money directly so I can pay for food and other necessities?**
No, we cannot send you money or gift cards. We pay the company directly.
- **How long does it take to get the bill paid?**
Once we have received all of the completed documentation, it can take 2 to 3 weeks depending on whether it can be paid by credit card or must be a mailed check.

Training and Education

Our team provides and hosts training and education to/for Service Members, Veterans, and their Families; Providers; Police Departments, and Community Groups.

Topics include:

- Maryland's Commitment to Veterans
- Military Culture
- Suicide Prevention (safeTALK & Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training [ASIST])
- Digital Peer Support
- ...and many others

Upcoming Virtual Events

- November 16 & 17, 2021 – Military & Veteran Behavioral Health Symposium (proposed topics include substance use, intimate partner violence, and alternative therapies)
- February 22 & 23, 2022 – Military & Veteran Special Populations Symposium (proposed topics include BIPOC, LGBTQ+, Women, and Caregivers)
- May 10 & 11, 2022 – Military & Veteran Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Symposium (proposed topics include posttraumatic stress, suicide, secondary traumatic stress, and compassion fatigue)

Additional Program Highlights

- Maryland Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Team
- Collaborating on the development of a Military-Civilian Coordinated Community Response (CCR) in Maryland
- Maryland has been added as a Star Behavioral Health Provider state. MCV will be working alongside the MD National Guard, Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University, and the Center for Deployment Psychology to bring military culture and treatment training to civilian practitioners at no or low cost in order to expand access

Governor's Challenge



Military-Civilian CCR

- Co-Chairs/Steering Committee: Statewide Trainer for Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV), Director of Maryland's Commitment to Veterans, Policy Advocate for Community Engagement for Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA), and Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) at Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center
- About 40 participants representing a variety of organizations across Maryland
- Actively drafting a plan, but still in education and development stage

Star Behavioral Health Providers



STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

A TRAINING PROGRAM

A three-tiered training program for civilian behavioral health providers who are interested in working with military, veterans, and their families.

A REFERRAL REGISTRY

A public online registry which is searchable by location, condition, populations, and type of insurance.

EACH TIER BUILDS ON THE ONE BEFORE

Tier Three	<p>Tier Three EBPs (2 days each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptance & Commitment Therapy • CBT-Chronic Pain • CBT-Depression • CBT-Insomnia • CBT-Suicide Prevention • Cognitive Processing Therapy • Prolonged Exposure Therapy
Tier Two	<p>Tier Two (2 days)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleep Disturbances • Substance Abuse Disorders • Traumatic Brain Injury • Post Traumatic Stress Disorder • Military Families • Suicide • Ethics
Tier One	<p>Tier One (1 day)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military Culture • Deployment Cycle

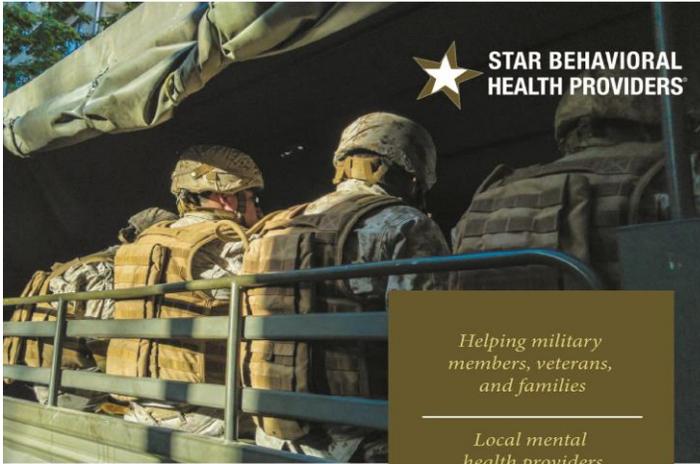
PROGRAM IMPACT

- Program has steadily expanded since 2011
- Online and in-person workshops
- Offers free CE to providers
- Over 450 training workshops
- Has provided 142,000+ training hours
- Nearly 1,000 providers on the registry
- Significant increases in participants' confidence to treat service members and veterans
- Significant gains in participants' knowledge about military culture, treating military populations and evidence-based psychotherapies (EBPs).

SBHP STATES

(SBHP STATES ARE IN GREEN)





STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS REGISTRY

We are Expanding!

Offering free training for local mental health providers and an easily searchable website for military members, veterans, and families. This unique registry exclusively features providers who have completed training in military culture and evidenced based psychotherapies.

Helping military members, veterans, and families

Local mental health providers

Free & Confidential

Customized search capability

Featuring direct provider referrals

New providers being added regularly so check back often.

For More Information Visit:
StarProviders.org
 or email:
Christy Collette
 Christy.Collette.ctr@usuhs.edu

Collaborators:







For More Information

- Visit our website: <https://health.maryland.gov/bha/veterans>
- Call our 24/7 hotline: **1 (877) 770-4801**
- Email us: bha.mcv@maryland.gov
- Follow us on:

Facebook - www.facebook.com/MarylandVeterans/

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/MDCommit2Vets/>

Instagram - www.instagram.com/mcv_maryland_behavioral_health/

Receive Text Notifications for Upcoming Events

**Want another way
to get connected
with us?**

**text *MDCom2Vets* to
898-211 for info,
resources & events**

Questions???
