

Highlights – February 2019



ServingTogether Staff Named Top Instructors of Mental Health First Aid Military/Veteran Module for 2018!

We are excited to announce that ServingTogether Program Managers, Christy Kenady and Julie Riggs have been named Top Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Instructors for 2018. The title was given to Mental Health First Aid instructors who taught 500 or more First Aiders during the 2018 calendar year as well as those who taught to specific audiences through MHFA modules. In 2018

Christy and Julie brought the MHFA Military and Veteran module to network providers and community partners in Maryland, DC and Northern Virginia. Family members and personnel working with military, veterans and families are often not aware of how to engage veterans with mental illnesses and addictions. Mental Health First Aid training aims to increase mental health literacy and to decrease stigmatizing attitudes in our communities. Like regular First Aid or CPR, Mental Health First Aid is designed to give people the skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. To find out about upcoming MHFA Trainings provided by ServingTogether and EveryMind please contact Christy Kenady at ckenady@every-mind.org.

ServingTogether New Network Provider Spotlight – Freedom Alliance

A big welcome to Freedom Alliance, the newest edition to the ServingTogether Provider Network. Freedom Alliance honors and supports America's military by focusing on two main areas for our support: **The Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund** for the children of military personnel who have been killed or permanently disabled in an operational mission or training accident and **Support our Troops Programs** that focus on healing the wounds of war through wellness programs including:

- Family Retreats
- Mortgage Free Homes
- Offshore Experience (Deep Sea Fishing)
- Outdoor Adventures (Hunting and Island Fishing Activities)



To find out more about the amazing work Josh Miles and his team at Freedom Alliance are doing visit their websites at www.freedomalliance.org. We are excited to have Freedom Alliance as part of the ever growing provider network and encourage you to refer clients through the network who could benefit from taking part in one of the programs Freedom Alliance offers.



Save the Date!
Run for EveryMind
September 15, 2019

Have You Checked Out the ServingTogether Community-Level Veterans Collaboratives?

If you haven't, you should come out! These informal networking meetings are open to all and are full of great information and discussions!

The February 5th meeting of the Fairfax County Veterans Collaborative was hosted by the Dyer-Gunnell American Legion Post 180 in Vienna. We featured speakers discussing programs assisting with employment and workforce development for our transitioning service members and veterans.



Adam Martinez, with HireMilitary.us, (shown right) discussed the newly launched web-based platform that connects employers that want to conduct individual internships (and other job experience opportunities) under the DoD SkillBridge and Career Skills Programs (CSP) with service members that are approved to take advantage of this opportunity within 180 days of their date of separation from the military.

Joanne Orchant Aceto and Lisa Russell with MVLE, highlighted a variety of their programs supporting those with barriers to employment. Lisa often works directly with veterans to connect them to opportunities such as Federal Contracts, as well as through strong partnerships they have with industry providers.

Our collaborative meetings give an opportunity for our area organizations to meet together to share resources and updates and work to better support our military and veteran populations throughout the National Capital Region. See our list below of upcoming meetings near you.

ServingTogether Collaborative Meetings

Community	Date	Time	Location
Frederick County Community Veteran Engagement Board (CVEB)	March 5, 2019	9:00 am – 10:30 am	Mount St. Mary's Frederick Campus 5350 Spectrum Drive Frederick MD
Loudoun County Veterans Collaborative	March 6, 2019	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Paul Davis Restoration Ashburn, VA
Prince George's County Veterans Collaborative	February 19, 2019	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	TBD
National Capitol Region Veterans Engagement Board	March 14, 2019	11:00 am – 12:30 PM	DC VA Medical Center 50 Irving Street Washington DC
Montgomery County Veteran Collaborative	March 20, 2019	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	EveryMind 1000 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville MD
Frederick Veteran Support Network	March 26, 2019	9:00 am – 10:30 am	Mental Health Assoc. of Frederick 226 S. Jefferson St, Frederick MD

In need of assistance?

If you are a service member, veteran or family member in need of assistance, please fill out the Get Assistance Form on our [website](#) or give us a call at 1-855-738-7176.