

## Highlights – May 2019

### ServingTogether Expanding our Mental Health First Aid Workshops!



During the month of May, ServingTogether brought **Military/Veteran Mental Health First Aid** to Prince George's and Frederick Counties. Participants received a three year certification for their participation in the 8-hour training that teaches how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The program looks at the specific risk factors faced by many service members and their families such as mental and physical trauma, stress, separation, etc.

Thank you to our community partners Prince George's County Office of Veterans Affairs and Frederick Community College for hosting the trainings.

For more information about upcoming Mental Health First Aid Courses please contact Christy Kenady at [ckenady@every-mind.org](mailto:ckenady@every-mind.org).

### Benefit of Being Part of the In (Network) Crowd

Qualitative data means little without context, or the story behind it. As an in-network partner, you have the opportunity to provide an additional layer of context and understanding to your work while helping to tell the story of a **community**. It is typical to uncover additional needs to support behind the one that is initially presented. And, as a person with compassion, you may provide a list of organizations or other resources that may be able to help. But what happens once they leave your office? Were they able to find the assistance they needed?

As part of the In (Network) Crowd you have the capacity to see what happens to the referred once they leave your office. This visibility also increases accountability as ServingTogether's Veteran Peer Navigators work to make **the right referral the first time**. These additional data points come together to provide a composite image of the broader community, what is happening there, and what solutions to build.



## Provider Focus Groups – Using the Network to Drive Change

### Mental Health Provider Focus Group on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

We had an informative and lively discussion about how we as a network can help clients with mental health needs get to services when they are often focused on their current crisis and resistant to discussing any other areas of need. We also explored the best timing for suggestion of additional services and the language used when offering behavioral health services as an option. Based off of the feedback from the focus group we have already seen an uptick in the number of mental health referrals through the network. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



**UPCOMING FOCUS GROUP: Employment Providers – please join us for the next ST Focus Group: Veteran Employment. June 21st from 10:00-11:30am in the conference room at our Rockville Location, 1000 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville MD. Formal invitation coming soon. Bagels and Coffee provided. For more information, contact Mike Ball at [mball@every-mind.org](mailto:mball@every-mind.org)**

Employment has been the number one service type requested in the network over the past year, and we want to make sure we are sending each referral to the provider that will be the best fit for that veteran or family member. Our goal for this focus group is to be more familiar with each one of our Employment Providers' focus areas including:

- Level of positions available through your program: entry-level, mid-level, high-level
- The specific industries served by providers – IT, construction, healthcare, etc...
- The questions we should we be asking veterans seeking employment that will ensure we are sending them to the right provider

We hope you will join us for this focus group. Please bring any questions you would like to ask of us, or other providers in the network as well.

## Network Performance – Setting Records

For the second month in a row, the ServingTogether Network has helped a record number of military, veterans and their families get to the services they need. In May, 113 services were requested by 34 clients. While employment remains the most requested service, we are seeing an increase in requests for wellness, sports & recreation, mental health and social enrichment programs.

**SAVE THE DATE! Join us for the ServingTogether One Year in Progress Review (IPR) – July 11th from 1:00-3:00 pm at the Henry M Jackson Foundation in North Bethesda.**

Service Episodes by Parent Service Type

CLICK ANY SERVICE TYPE TO VIEW SUB-TYPES





Thank You **100WomenStrong** for your continued support of **ServingTogether**, the Provider Network and our work in Loudoun County, Virginia!

Learn more by reading the article on Loudoun Now at <https://bit.ly/2wve2jO>

### ServingTogether and Community Partner Collaborative Meetings

Community	Date	Time	Location
Frederick County CVEB	June 4, 2019	9:00 – 10:30am	Mount St Mary's College Frederick Campus 5350 Spectrum Drive, Frederick, MD
Fairfax County Veterans Collaborative	June 4, 2019	1:00 – 3:00pm	Vienna Baptist Church 541 Marshall Rd SW Vienna, VA
Loudoun County Community Veterans Engagement Board (CVEB)	June 11, 2019	7:30 – 9:00pm	Loudoun County Government Center 1 Harrison Street SE Leesburg, VA
Southern Maryland Veteran Collaborative	June 13, 2019	10:00 - 11:30am	Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, D Wing at 29449 Charlotte Hall Road
Prince George's County Collaborative	June 18, 2019	1:00 – 2:30pm	Prince George's County Office of Veteran Affairs 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Rd Suite L-023
Fort Belvoir Collaborative	June 20, 2019	12:00 – 2:00pm	USO Warriors and Family Center Fort Belvoir, VA
Frederick Veteran Support Network	June 25, 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 [ServingTogetherProject.org](http://ServingTogetherProject.org) or give us a call at 1-855-738-7176.