



Uniformed Services University
of the Health Sciences
4301 Jones Bridge Road
Bethesda, MD 20814-4799

Release No. 07-04-12

April 12, 2007

Contact: Office of External Affairs

Voice: 301-295-1219 Fax: 301-295-3757

Email: anicholson@usuhs.mil

News Release

USU's CSTS launches "Courage to Care for Me" campaign

BETHESDA, MD. — Healthcare professionals at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress (CSTS) have launched the "Courage to Care for Me" campaign as part of the "Courage to Care" initiative during April, the Month of the Military Child.

The campaign intends to raise awareness of the strength and courage required in parenting during stressful times of deployment, redeployment, extended deployment and reintegration into one's home life upon return from duty.

The vehicle for this message is a onesie, which is emblazoned with one of two colorful Courage to Care for Me logos and accompanied with a tag that asks "Why Courage?" The tag explains that parenting during times of war involves courage at home, just as on the battlefield. The goal is to help clinicians and family advocacy professionals reinforce the values of positive parenting, especially to new mothers in military settings.

The Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress conducts research, education, consultation and training on preparing for and responding to the psychological effects and health consequences of traumatic events. These events include natural (hurricanes, floods and tsunami) and human made disasters (motor vehicle and plane crashes, war, terrorism and bioterrorism). The Center's work spans studies of genetic vulnerability to stress, individual and community responses to terrorism, and policy recommendations to help our nation and its military and civilian populations.

USU educates health care professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the U.S. Public Health Service. The university provides military and public health-relevant education, research, service, and consultation to the nation and the world, pursuing excellence and innovation during times of peace and war. Many of its graduates are supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, offering their leadership and expertise. Approximately 25 percent of all active-duty military medical officers are USU graduates.

For more information about the campaign visit www.couragetocareforme.org. Questions about the the campaign, USU or the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress can be directed to the Office of External Affairs at (301) 295-1219.