



## 2009 Uniformed Services Social Workers Conference

When Veterans Come Home:  
Partnering for the Challenges of Individual, Family, and Community Reintegration

*In conjunction with the AMSUS annual meeting, Nov 15<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> in St. Louis, Missouri*

The Uniformed Services Social Workers (USSW) is a consortium representing military, uniformed and civilian social workers in the U.S. Air Force, Army, Marines, Navy, Public Health Service and Department of Veterans Affairs. For the past 24 years, USSW has hosted an annual conference open to all social workers of our member agencies as well as social workers in public and private settings with an interest in the provision of social work services to military, public health, and veteran populations. In 2007 the USSW conference was combined with the AMSUS, the Society of the Federal Health Agencies, annual meeting. Check out the 2006 - 2008 USSW Conference Proceedings at [www.usuhs.mil/ussw](http://www.usuhs.mil/ussw).

The theme for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual USSW Conference in 2009, **“When Veterans Come Home: Partnering for the Challenges of Individual, Family, and Community Reintegration,”** reflects the need for social workers in our agencies to develop new models of practice and new skill sets to provide quality social work services in non-traditional settings and within non-traditional organizational structures. If you are interested in addressing the needs of returning warriors and their Families, this conference is for you.

The USSW conference is held in conjunction with the AMSUS annual meeting, Nov 15<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> in St. Louis, Missouri. Registration and hotel information will be posted on the AMSUS website on 15 JUL 09: [www.amsus.org](http://www.amsus.org). You can earn as many as 30 CEU's at the AMSUS/USSW conference. Please purchase tickets for the annual USSW awards luncheon and consultants service update when you register, to avoid missing out. A special tribute to CDR C. Keith Springle, our fellow Navy social work officer killed in the line of duty, will be made at this year's USSW luncheon. **For further information about the USSW conference, contact LTC Jeff Yarvis, Ph.D. at [jyarvis@usuhs.mil](mailto:jyarvis@usuhs.mil) or 301-295-9853.**

AMSUS, the Society of the Federal Health Agencies, was founded in 1891 and chartered by Congress in 1903. The AMSUS and USSW Conferences provide the opportunity to interact with colleagues from other services including the Reserve and Guard components, as well as other countries!

BG Gary H. Cheek, Assistant Surgeon General, Commander, Warrior Transition Command will open the conference and Dr. Kathryn Basham, Ph.D., LICSW, Professor, Smith College School for Social Work and Editor of Smith College Studies in Social Work will give the keynote address. Four USSW tracks will be offered: reintegration, Families and children, innovative methods, and operational & clinical practices. This year we will also have an **offsite visit to the St. Louis VA Medical Center's PTSD/TBI unit at Jefferson Barracks**. Interested attendees wishing to attend the offsite should not schedule their return travel until the evening of 19 November.

**AMSUS/USSW 2009 SCHEDULE**

Wednesday 18 Nov 2009

0800- 0830	Welcome and Opening Remarks BG Gary H. Cheek, <i>Assistant Surgeon General, Commander, Warrior Transition Command</i>
0830- 0930	Keynote Dr. Kathryn Basham, Ph.D. Professor, Smith College of Social Work <b>Homecoming as Safe Haven or the New Combat Zone: Attachment and Detachment in Military Couples</b>
0930-1030 1030-1045 1045-1145 Child & Family Reintegration Innovative Approaches Operational & Clinical Practices	Carol Sheets and Jennifer Perez, VA Initiatives: A View from the Top Break <i>Social Work Break Out Sessions:</i> Track A: Ms. Williams, LCSW-C and Dr. Fraga, Coming Together Around Military Families Track B: LTC Gordon, LCSW Beyond the Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) Track C: MAJ Johnson, LCSW Leveraging Technology Solutions for Psychological Hlth Track D: Ms. Bruce, LCSW The missing link: Trauma-Induced Existential Disruption Model
1145-1330	USSW Awards Luncheon/Consultant Service Updates – Hosted by COL Tucker-Harris
1330-1700	Afternoon Breakout Sessions
1330- 1500 Child & Family Reintegration Innovative Approaches Operational & Clinical Practices	<i>Social Work Break Out Sessions:</i> Track A: LTC Yarvis, Ph.D., LCSW. Reintegrating America's Warriors to Families & Work Track B: MAJ Jarrett, LCSW. Warrior Resilience & Thriving (WRT) Track C: Ms. Mass, LSW. Partnering for Connection: Outreach to OEF/OIF Veterans Track D: Ms. Davis, M.A. LMHC. The Lethal Triangle: PTSD/TBI, Substance Abuse, and Addiction
1500- 1530	Break
1530- 1700 Child & Family Reintegration Innovative Approaches Operational & Clinical Practices	<i>Social Work Break Out Sessions:</i> Track A: Ms. Lindgren, LCSW. & Ms. Finn, RN. Caring For The Servicemember and Family Track B: COL Washam, LISW, FACHE. VA Reserve & National Guard PDHRA Track C: Ms. Roberts & Ms. Klinger, RN. Lebanon VA Partnership with PA National Guard Track D: LTC Thompson, LCSW. Sexual Assault Support in the AOR

Thursday 19 Nov 2009

0800- 0915 0915-1000	CAPT Kennedy, COL Tarpley, COL Jones, & COL Harris, Panel: Careers in Social Work USSW Peer Reviewed Poster Sessions
1000- 1030	Break
1030- 1130 Child & Family Reintegration Innovative Approaches Operational & Clinical Practices	<i>Social Work Break Out Sessions:</i> Track A: Capt Wonnum, MSW & Capt Lunasco, PsyD. PEDIACADEMY Track B: Ms. Finn, LCSW Role of the WTU Social Worker Track C: LTC Lewandowski, Ph.D. & LT Mott, MSW. Community Engagement Track D: CDR Adams, Ph.D., LCSW Social Work at 18,000 feet
1130-1230	Lunch – Additional Poster Session Time
1300-1630	Offsite Visit to VA PTSD and TBI Center Jefferson Barracks /St.Louis - LTC (ret) Gray and Dr. Matthieu, Ph.D., LCSW Trip will include a walk through of the OEF/OIF PTSD and Polytrauma Clinic, as well as an update of the Fisher House Program. The briefing is being scheduled at the Jefferson Barracks Division of the St. Louis VAMC