



OHIO CARES

FOR SERVICE MEMBERS. FOR FAMILY. FOR YOU.

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OHIO CARES

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of *OHIO CARES* is to enhance the “safety net” of behavioral health services available for service members and their families.

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DESCRIPTION

OHIO CARES is a collaboration of state and local agencies supporting this effort. Although the VA is the primary source of services for veterans, this partnership also identifies community based resources such as county alcohol, drug and mental health boards, public agencies, and private providers for all service members and their families.

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The Key Partners

- Ohio National Guard
 - OHIOCARES Chaplain – CH (CPT) Nicholas Chou
 - Director of Psychological Health – Dr. Jeremy Kaufman
- Governor's Office of Veterans' Affairs
- Ohio Department of Mental Health
- Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services
- Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities
- Brain Injury Association of Ohio
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Case Western Reserve University
- County Agencies

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“A Call to Action”

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OBJECTIVES

- **Maintain and Grow the Network of Mental Health Providers available to service members and their families**
- **Train and Educate Providers on mental health issues related to the military**
- **Coordinate Mental Health Services for Service Members and their Families**
- **Promote Awareness about OHIO CARES and mental health issues related to the military**

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Maintain and Grow the Network of Providers

- The OHIO CARES Steering Committee meets every three months to provide direction for the organization
- The OHIO CARES Sub Committee meets every other month to network and carry out the work of meeting the four objectives

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Maintain and Grow the Network of Providers

- SAMHSA Grant
- Database of OHIO CARES providers
- Governor's Office encourages providers to be TRICARE providers
- Congressional Advocacy: National Guard Mental Health Caucus
- Site Visits

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Train and Educate Providers

- Educational topics: PTSD, TBI, readjustment stress, military culture, and state/local resources
- Training Seminars at conferences, hospitals, etc.
- Statewide Training Event: Ohio Department of Mental Health Annual Conference
- Online training links posted on the OHIO CARES website
- Kaptur Combat Health Initiative

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Coordinate Mental Health Services

- Non-emergency referral help line
- Resource Guide Book
- OHIO CARES Website

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Promote Awareness

- Leadership Emphasis
- Suicide Prevention Training
- Yellow Ribbon
- Promotional Materials: magnets, postcards, posters
- PBS Series “This Community Cares”
- Facebook “Ohio Veterans Connect”

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Questions

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