

**The New England Collaborative for Veterans  
with Traumatic Brain Injury and Their  
Families**

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Defense Centers of Excellence

2010 Third Annual Trauma Spectrum  
Conference

December 7 – December 8, 2010

# History of the NEC

- Massachusetts HRSA/MCHB-Funded Grants
- Development & Work of the Massachusetts Veterans with TBI Consortium
- The May, 2009 New England Symposium on Veterans with TBI
- The creation of the New England Collaborative

# MA Veterans with TBI Consortium

- Systems change
- Partnerships & Collaboration
- Information sharing = linkages
- The power of acronyms – learning a new language
- Resource mapping
- Pilot projects

# The New England Symposium

- The role of state government in addressing the needs of veterans with TBI and their families
- Creative approaches across the region
  - Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire & Vermont

# The New England Symposium (cont'd)

- MA Successes & Challenges
  - Identification & Assessment
  - Interagency collaboration
  - Outreach
  - The role of families
  - Employment
  - Integrated case management

# The New England Collaborative for Veterans with TBI and Their Families

- Unique Geographic Region
- Membership/Partners
- Goals
- Committee Priorities
- Challenges

# NEC Partners

- BIA Affiliates
- State Programs for TBI
- National Guard & Reserve
- Veterans' Organizations
- Departments of Veterans' Services
- Veterans Administration
  - VISN I Polytrauma Centers
  - VISN I Mental Health Services

# NEC Partners (cont'd)

- HRSA/MCHB Grantees
- Navy Behavioral Health TBI Clinic
- Defense Centers of Excellence
- Neuropsychologists
- Defense & Veterans Brain Injury Center



# Goals

- Information & Resource Sharing
  - Best Practices
- Shared Training Opportunities
- Joint Program Development
- Maximizing Limited State & Federal Resources
- Improving Transition from Military to Civilian Life

# Priorities & Committee Activities

- New England Resource Directory for Active Military Personnel
- Buddies for Vets Program
- Enhancing the Community/State College Experience for Veterans

# Challenges

- Multiple/competing demands on members
- Restrictions on out-of-state travel
- Limited participation

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