



Improving Access to High-Quality Mental Health Care for Veterans

A Workshop Convened By:
Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

The National Academy of Sciences Building
Washington, D.C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023

8:30 am **Introductory Session**

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Kenneth W. Kizer, MD, MPH
Planning Committee Chair

Keynote Address

Overview of the State of Mental Health Care Services in the Veterans Health Care System
Tamara Campbell, MD, PsyD, DFAPA
Department of Veterans Affairs

9:15 am **Session 1: Veteran and Veteran Advocate Experiences on Accessing Mental Health Care Services**

Moderator: Michele Samorani, PhD
Santa Clara University

Advocate Perspectives

Advaith Thampi, JD
Iraq and Aghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)

Tracy A. Neal-Walden, PhD (Col, USAF-Ret)
Cohen Veterans Network

Alana Centilli, MS
Elizabeth Dole Foundation
Dovetail Landing

Panel Discussion

10:15 am

Session 2: Growing Need, Limited Staff – Ways of Accessing VA Mental Health Care Services and Capitalizing on It Being a National Health Care System

*Moderator: Shannon Harris, PhD
Virginia Commonwealth University*

Exemplars from National Health Systems around the World

*Asaf Bitton, MD
Ariadne Labs*

Intermountain Health Care: Opportunities for Improving Quality of Mental Health Care for Patients and Families

*Brenda Reiss-Brennan, PhD, APRN, CS
Intermountain Health Care*

Panel Discussion

11:15 am

BREAK

11:30 am

Session 3: Growing Need, Limited Staff – Innovative Person-centered and Caregiver Strategies to Improve and Sustain Access to Mental Health Care Services

*Moderator: Jay H. Shore, MD, MPH
VA Office of Rural Health and University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus*

Improving Mental Health Emergency Care access for American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans

*Pamela End of Horn, DSW, LICSW
Indian Health Service*

Improving and Sustaining Mental Health Access for Individuals Who are Unhoused

*Enrico G. Castillo, MD, MSHPM
University of California, Los Angeles*

Accessing Mental Health Services through Community Outreach and Houses of Worship

*Reverend Leroy Miles, MDiv.
Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church*

Improving and Sustaining Mental Health Access in Rural Settings

*Todd Helvig, PhD
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education*

Panel Discussion

12:45 pm

LUNCH

1:30 pm

Session 4: Growing Need, Limited Staff – Using Technology to Improve and Sustain Access to Mental Health Care Services

Moderators: Evelyn Lewis, MD, Veterans' Health and Wellness Foundation

Leveraging Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence to Improve Mental Health Access

Paola Pedrelli, PhD

Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital

Using Emerging Digital Psychiatry and Mobile Health Technologies to Improve Mental Health Access

John Torous, MD, MBI

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School

Use of Immersive Technology and Virtual Reality to Improve Mental Health Access

Barbara Olasov Rothbaum, PhD

Emory School of Medicine

Use of Immersive Technology to Improve Veteran Mental Health Services

Anne Lord Bailey, PharmD, BCPS

Veterans Health Administration

Panel Discussion

3:00 pm

Wrap-Up

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2023

8:30 am

Opening Session

Welcome and Opening Remarks for Day 2

Kenneth W. Kizer, MD, MPH

Planning Committee Co-Chair

8:45 am

Session 5: Growing Need, Limited Staff – Utilizing Partnerships to Improve and Sustain Access to Mental Health Care Services

Moderator: Evelyn Lewis, MD

Veterans' Health and Wellness Foundation

Improving Access through Population Health Approaches and Strategic Partnerships

Dawn V. Zeiger, MPH

Geisinger Health

Improving Access for Underserved Populations through Population Health Approaches

Wes Williams, PhD

Wellpower

Opportunities to Improve Access to Mental Health Care through Industry Partnerships

Taft Parsons III, MD
Aetna / CVS Health

Panel Discussion

9:45 am Session 6: Growing Need, Limited Staff – Achieving Institutional Adoption and Dissemination of Innovative Strategies to Address Mental Health Care Service Barriers

*Moderator: Richard Silvia, PharmD, BCPP
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences*

Use of Community Health Workers to Engage with Veterans and Maintain Access to Care

Denerale Jones, MPH
Penn Center for Community Health Workers

Anthony Davis
Penn Center for Community Health Workers

Utilizing Pharmacists as Entry Points into Mental Health Care Services and Care Management

Andre Montes, PharmD
The University of Texas at El Paso

Forward Looking Digital Health Innovations to Improve Access to Mental Health Care

Andrey Ostrovsky, MD, FAAP
Social Innovation Ventures

Panel Discussion

10:45 am BREAK

11:00am Session 7: Summing Up, Reflections, and Future Considerations

*Moderator: Kenneth W. Kizer, MD, MPH
Planning Committee Chair*

Planning Committee Reflections

Richard Silvia, PharmD, BCPP,
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Jay H. Shore, MD, MPH, *Colorado School of Public Health*
Evelyn Lewis, MD, *Veterans' Health and Wellness Foundation*
Shannon Harris, PhD, *Virginia Commonwealth University*
Michele Samorani, PhD, *Santa Clara University*

Department of Veterans Affairs Reflections

Matthew A. Miller, PhD, MPH

VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

12:00 pm Concluding Remarks and Workshop Wrap-Up

Kenneth W. Kizer, MD, MPH

Planning Committee Chair

12:15 pm ADJOURN