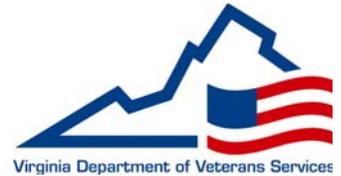


The Virginia Department of Veterans Services



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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Virginia Wounded Warrior Program Seeks Regional Director for Southwest Virginia

RICHMOND— The Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) seeks a regional director to manage program activities in southwestern Virginia. The regional director monitors and coordinates mental health and rehabilitative services support for Virginia veterans, members of the Virginia National Guard, and Virginia residents in the Armed Forces Reserves not in active federal service. The regional director ensures that services are available within the region to support family members affected by a covered military member's service and deployment. And, the incumbent ensures availability of timely assessment and treatment for combat stress and traumatic brain injuries resulting from service in combat areas. To apply for this position, visit

https://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov/applicants/jsp/shared/search/SearchResults_css.jsp.

The Virginia Wounded Warrior Program Southwest Virginia is jointly managed by the Mt. Rogers Community Services Board and New River Valley Community Services and employs two dedicated case managers. Since June 1, the VWWP team has contacted numerous local agencies and organizations with information about the program. Team members have presented at speaking engagements and established relationships with the Salem VA Medical Center (VAMC) and the Mountain Home VAMC in Tennessee. They have built strong partnerships with Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia and the regional offices of the Department of Rehabilitative Services. The team has established interagency referral and assessment forms and is managing services for veterans and families throughout Southwest Virginia.

VWWP Southwest Virginia hosted the first regional training program for community service providers on July 10, 2009. This training provided education about working with veterans with TBI, navigating the VA system, assisting veterans with state and federal benefits, and understanding military culture. Participants included community services board and brain injury services staff as well as

Serving those who served.

professionals from the Virginia Employment Commission, Virginia Department of Veterans Services, and other human services professionals. Future events and meetings have been scheduled with veterans service organizations, the Department of Corrections, and a job fair hosted by the Virginia Army National Guard. Additional training seminars for professionals as well as veterans and family members will be hosted.

The Virginia Wounded Warrior Program was authorized by the 2008 General Assembly and is charged with ensuring that veterans who have experienced stress-related injuries and traumatic brain injuries in combat, and their families, receive timely assessment, treatment, and support. A study by the RAND Corporation reports that more than 30 percent of returning service personnel “have a mental health condition or reported experiencing a traumatic brain injury.”

The General Assembly appropriated \$4.4 million over the current biennium to fund the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program. These funds are being used to build capacity in the community service boards, traumatic brain injury service providers, and other community-based service providers as well as to provide training for service providers. Services to veterans and their families include mental health, substance abuse, and traumatic brain injury services in addition to case management, outpatient, family support, and rehabilitation services.

For more information about the Wounded Warrior Program, visit www.virginiaforveterans.com.

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