Meet our Presenters

James E. Nelson is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker currently employed by the Veterans Administration at the Richard L. Roudebush Medical Center in Indianapolis in the OEF/OIF/OND clinic as a mental health counselor. James was a member of the 55th Combat Stress Control team and was deployed to Iraq in 2009. James’s responsibilities during deployment included conducting individual therapy and evaluation of soldiers in theatre, serving as officer in charge and officer in the field, and supervising mental health clinic operations. James received his Masters of Social Work from Indiana University/Purdue University of Indianapolis. He received his Bachelor of Science from Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana.

Sheri Bell-O’Gara, LCSW is the Mental Health Coordinator for the OEF/OIF/OND clinic at the Richard L Roudebush VA in Indianapolis. Sheri and a multidisciplinary team assist returning combat veterans in readjusting to life back home and helping them to reintegrate back into their families and communities. She is trained in several evidence based psychotherapies such as Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Insomnia and Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing Therapy. Sheri is a veteran of the US Navy.

Dr. Marty Pentz has been a substance abuse social worker at the Indianapolis VA since August of 2003. Prior to that he was a full-time professor at the Indiana University School of Social Work, primarily assigned to IUE in Richmond, IN. His teaching was largely in research, practice evaluation and practice. He is also an Ethics Lead on the consultation ethics team. He has a tremendous passion for working with our nations veterans that have substance abuse problems. He is married and has three children and is a doting grandfather of Lilia Jane. He also has a Labra Doodle named Lucy that is another light in his life.

Travis Field is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker at the Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis. He has a Master of Arts degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a master of social work degree from the Indiana University School of Social Work. Since 1997, Travis has worked in the mental health field, including three different Community Mental Health Centers. For the past 9 years, he has worked at the VA: 4 years working as an outpatient mental health therapist for returning Iraq and Afghanistan combat Veterans, and for the past 5 years has worked in the role of Suicide Prevention Coordinator and Supervisory Social Worker.

EBP Interventions for Working with Veterans

August 7, 2014
(Thursday)
8:30 - 4:30 PM
Location:
Landsbaum Center
For Health Education
1433 N 6 1/2 Street,
Terre Haute, IN 47807
**Addictions**

Objectives:
1. Understand the use of Evidenced Based Practice (EBP) in the Indianapolis VA’s Substance Use Disorder Recovery Program
2. Gain insight into treating the veteran with a dual diagnosis using EBP

**Suicide Risk Assessment and Safety Planning**

Objectives:
1. Gain insight into suicide among the Veteran population and the VA’s Suicide Prevention Program approach to addressing it.
2. Recognize suicide risk and protective factors within the framework of suicide risk assessment.
3. Gain insight into the Self-Directed Violence Classification System, as a standardized nomenclature.
4. Recognize the function of Safety Planning as a patient-centered, clinical intervention.
5. Understand the role of the Veterans Crisis Line in VA Suicide Prevention and recognize ways to integrate this resource into your community.

**Directions**

From I-70 and Hwy 41 intersection in Terre Haute, go North on Hwy 41 (3rd St.) approximately 4 miles to Eighth Ave. Turn right (East) & go 3 blocks to 6 ½ Street. Turn right (South) onto 6 ½ Street.

**Questions/send checks to**

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“conference” as subject

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