

# Paving the Way Home: The Georgia Veterans Initiative



# Paving the Way Home

## Mission Statement

- ❖ To MOBILIZE and PREPARE Georgia's Mental Health, Substance Abuse Community Providers and Armed Forces to address the various issues of returning Veterans of OEF/OIF and their Families.



# Goals

- ❖ Establish an Interagency Coalition, Collaboration, and Co-ordination
- ❖ Develop Accessible Systems of Services
- ❖ Increase Knowledge about available Resources
- ❖ Develop a Multi-pronged Effort to Address Stigma



# Georgia's Action Areas

- ❖ Increasing Access to Services
- ❖ Training and Education for Service Providers
- ❖ Outreach and Stigma Reduction
- ❖ Peer Support and Training
- ❖ Expanding and Improving Services
- ❖ Veteran Workforce Development



# Increasing Access to Services

## OBJECTIVE:

- ❖ Assess current resources and remaining needs

## PLAN OF ACTION:

- ❖ Assess current resources in Georgia
- ❖ Collaborate and Network
- ❖ Create a procedures for referrals and information
- ❖ Plan to Address Barriers to Services



# Expanding and Improving Services

## OBJECTIVE:

- ❖ Expansion of services to include screening, treatment, on-going care and follow up

## PLAN OF ACTION

- ❖ Ensure Proper Screening and Treatment
- ❖ Maintain Continuing Care
- ❖ Increase Veterans and Families Advocates



# Veteran Workforce Development

## OBJECTIVE:

- ❖ Create a statewide Task Force for Veterans Workforce Development and Work Re-Entry

## PLAN OF ACTION:

- ❖ Model Programs
- ❖ Employer Education
- ❖ Outreach
- ❖ Removing Barriers to Employment
- ❖ Employment Training and Education



# Statewide Recommendations

- ❖ The need of a Statewide Coordinating Council
- ❖ Mobile Veteran Assistance Centers to reach rural communities
- ❖ Design a website with statewide resources for Service Members, Veterans and their Families





# Georgia's Collaborative Partners

- ❖ Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- ❖ Georgia Department of Veterans Services
- ❖ Department of Veterans Affairs
- ❖ Georgia Department of Labor
- ❖ U.S. Army, Reserve and Georgia National Guard
- ❖ Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center
- ❖ Georgia Community Service Boards
- ❖ Local and Community Agencies
- ❖ Faith-Based Organizations
- ❖ Service Providers
- ❖ Veterans Service Organizations



# Point of Contact

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