



## **Defense Health Agency (DHA) Clinical Communities Speaker Series**

### **APR 2022 CCSS: Military Children and Youth: Extending Force Protection to our Nation's Most Valuable Assets**

#### **S01: Rallying a Behavioral Health Response for Military Youth in Trying Times – The Military Health System and Beyond**

##### **Resource List**

“Mental health is fundamental to the overall health and well-being of our country’s children and young adults,” said HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra. Unfortunately, the pandemic exposed how much our mental health and crisis care systems are lacking in our communities. In response to this, \$35 million has been granted to fund our communities and expand mental health and suicide prevention in children and young adults. The [Department of Health and Human Services](#) (2022) has provided a link to the seven grant programs that will extend across evidence-based treatments, recovery support programs and developing innovative solutions for our children and youth. Review where this grant money will impact your community services for children and youth.

The [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) (2022) produced a phenomenal resource entitled, “Parenting for Service Members and Veterans”. This is an online course created by military veterans for military veterans that can be accessed through the VA website. Veteran parents can learn about communication, emotions and behavior, discipline, and the physical challenges and stress their children endure over all of their developmental stages. Return to this site to utilize this resource that the VA has created to extend support to retired service members and their families.

Promoting Positive Adolescent Health Behaviors and Outcomes is the [National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine](#) (2020) attempt to capture the importance of preparing adolescents for adulthood. This publication that can be downloaded for free will highlight prevention and intervention programs that offer additional support and resources for parents and children that promote healthy growth and development. This resource was published prior to the COVID-19 pandemic which bolsters the credibility that our nation’s youth were struggling prior to pandemic and even more now that we are in its aftermath. Utilize this Ebook to gain additional information, reliable techniques and effective strategies to integrate with your pediatric patients, students and children.

Although “Awareness Day” occurs every year, the event that occurred in 2018 featured several senior federal officials, military health and primary care leaders who spoke to the importance of implementing more trauma informed care into child-serving systems. The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (2018) captured this event in a webcast and made additional background information available to download for those interested in learning what resources and adjustments have been made in response to this event. Download this information to understand review the research that propelled this initiative and the final report that outlines the charge for health care agencies to adjust their systems of care for their pediatric populations.



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### **References**

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<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/03/09/hhs-announces-nearly-35-million-strengthen-mental-health-support-children-young-adults.html>

Department of Veteran's Affairs. (2022). Parenting for service members and veterans.

<https://www.veterantraining.va.gov/parenting>

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2020. Promoting Positive Adolescent Health Behaviors and Outcomes: Thriving in the 21st Century. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/25552>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2018). Awareness Day, 2018.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/childrens-awareness-day/past-events/2018>