

Veteran & Family Care Resources and Information

Web Sites

Veterans Administration

<http://www.va.gov>

The Veterans Administration is the primary governmental agency responsible for assisting veterans from all services who have served in combat or times of war. This site can be used to identify and apply for various benefits or find the nearest VA facility.

National Center for PTSD

<http://www.ncptsd.va.gov/ncmain/index.jsp>

This site operated by the VA provides information for both families and clinicians regarding the assessment and impacts of PTSD. The NCPTSD is on research and education regarding the prevention, understanding, and treatment of PTSD.

Battlemind

<http://www.battlemind.org/>

The Battlemind program was developed by the Army at Walter Reed Army Institute for Research. The program is intended to help families understand the transitions that need to be made between the battlefield and home front. It has a number of links to articles and resources for helping families through these transitions.

National Military Family Association

<http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer>

The NMFA is a private organization educating families concerning their rights, benefits, and the services available to them. It also advocates for military families by promoting policy and legislative change to improve their lives. Links from this site address deployment, returns, parenting, and marital issues related to current operations.

Military One Source

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx>

Military One Source is a contracted family support resource currently operated by the Ceridian Corporation for the DoD. Most services and resources are free of charge, including limited counseling services. This site provides links and referrals for local counselors as well as information sheets on various subjects and links for more information. The resources of this site can be accessed on a DoD or individual service basis as appropriate.

The Military Family Network

<http://www.emilitary.org>

This site is operated by the Military Family Research Institute of Purdue University and is funded by an endowment from the Lily Foundation and from the DoD Office of

Military Community and Family Policy. This site is geared to researchers and care providers but has a wealth of information.

Operation Home Front

<http://www.operationhomefront.net>

Operation Homefront is a nonprofit organization that provides emergency assistance and morale support to troops and their families as well as support to wounded veterans.

Operation Homefront is a volunteer organization that has proved effective in meeting the needs of veterans that fall through the cracks and those experiencing hardship due to administrative delays in establishing government benefits.

Healing Combat Trauma

http://www.healingcombattrama.com/the_national_guard/index.html

Lily Casura, a published writer and editor, authored this blog on combat trauma and PTSD. She draws heavily from National Guard resources and pulls together news articles from a number of sources. This site also lists a number of personal narratives published by Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration

<http://www.samhsa.gov/vets>

SAMHSA is a division of the US Department of Health and Human Resources. This site addresses issues involved in treating veterans and their families. This site can be particularly useful for those working with veterans who are self-medicating to relieve traumatic stress symptoms.

Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA

http://www.mpls-synod.org/resources/vets_ministry.html

This site is an example of what a Synod or District can do to provide information to its members on ministry to veterans and veteran's issues. It also demonstrates how information can be share regarding local resources and provide a network for cooperative ministries.

Northwest District of the LCMS

http://www.nowlcms.org/presidents_office/Military.aspx

This site also demonstrates how a District or a Synod can do to provide information to its members through links to sites addressing deployment and reunion. Its particular strength is providing information specific to state resources. It is a good model for jurisdictions that cover large geographic regions.

Veterans and Families Coming Home

<http://www.veteransandfamilies.org/home.html>

Veterans and Families is a nonprofit community service and support organization, founded and directed by Veterans, parents, grandparents, family members, employers,

mental health professionals, academics, philanthropists and community leaders. It stresses the veteran's mental and emotional return to their family.

Iraq War Veteran's Organization, Inc

http://www.iraqwarveterans.org/family_support.htm

This site has dozens of links to sites of interest to returning veteran's and their families. The unique feature of this site is that it address issues of specific concern to Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.

Books

Armstrong, K., Best, S., & Domenici, P. (2006). *Courage After Fire: Coping Strategies for Troops Returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and Their Families*. Berkley, CA: Ulysses Press.

Cantrell, B. C., & Dean, C. (2005). *Down Range to Iraq and Back*. Seattle, WA: WordSmith Publishing.

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Hart, A. B. I. (2000). *An Operators Manual for Combat PTSD: Essays for Coping*. Lincoln NE: iUniverse.com, Inc.

Lanham, S. L. (2007). *Veterans and Families Guide to Recovering from PTSD*. Annandale VA: Purple Heart Service Foundation.

Matsakis, A. (1996). *Vietnam Wives: Facing the Challenges of Life with Veterans Suffering Post-Traumatic Stress*. Baltimore: The Sidran Press.

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- Means, J. J., & Nelson, M. A. (2000). *Trauma & Evil: Healing the Wounded Soul*. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Fortress.
- Naparstek, B. (2004). *Invisible Heroes: Survivors of Trauma and How They Heal*. New York: Bantam.
- Rogers, D. F. (2002). *Pastoral Care for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder: Healing the Shattered Soul*. Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Pastoral Press.
- Schiraldi, G. R. (2000). *The Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Sourcebook: A Guide to Healing, Recovery, and Growth*. Los Angeles, CA: Lowell House.
- Shay, J. (1994). *Achilles in Vietnam: Combat Trauma and the Undoing of Character*. New York, NY: Scribner.
- Shay, J. (2002). *Odysseus in America: Combat Trauma and the Trials of Homecoming*. New York: Scribner.
- Slone, L. B., & Friedman, M. J. (2008). *After the War Zone: A Practical Guide for Returning Troops and Their Families*. Philadelphia: Da Capo Press.
- Tick, E. (2005). *War and the Soul: Healing Our Nation's Veterans from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*. Wheaton, IL: Theosophical Publishing House.
- Weaver, A. J., Flannelly, L. T., & Preston, J. D. (2003). *Counseling Survivors of Traumatic Events: A Handbook for Pastors and Other Helping Professionals*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press.

Journal Articles

- Blakley, Theresa L. "The Anatomy of Trauma and Faith: A Reflective Post-Mortem." *Social Work & Christianity* 34, no. 1 (2007): 88-103.

Bowen, Gary L., Dennis K. Orthner, and Laura I. Zimmerman. "Family Adaptation of Single Parent Families in the United States Army." *Family Relations* 42 (1993): 293-304.

Chen, Yung Y., and Harold G. Koenig. "Traumatic Stress and Religion: Is There a Relationship? A Review of Empirical Findings." *Journal of Religion and Health* 45, no. 3 (2006).

Cozza, Stephen J., Ryo S. Chun, and James A. Polo. "Military Families and Children During Operation Iraqi Freedom." *Psychiatric Quarterly* 76, no. 4 (2005): 371-378.
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Audio-Visuals

Epstein, M. (Director), Epstein, M., & Yellen, J. (Producers) (2006). *Combat Diary: The Marines of Lima Company*. United States: A & E IndieFilms.

Oregon National Guard Soldiers (Writer) (2007). *This Is War: Memories of Iraq*. United States: Lucky Forward Films.

Pratt, R. J., & Pratt, J. M. (Producers) (2006). *Between Iraq and A Hard Place*. San Diego, CA: Pratt Bros Entertainment.

Sesame Street (Writer) (2008). *Talk, Listen, Connect*. United States: Sesame Street Workshops. [Intended for younger children and can be downloaded from the internet or obtained for free through Military One Source]

Scranton, D. (Director), May, R., & James, S. (Producers) (2006). *The War Tapes*. United States: Docurama Films.

US Army (Writer) (2007). *Mr Poe and Friends Discuss Family Reunion After Deployment*. United States: Military One Source. [Intended for children 6 to 11 years of age, and available for free through Military One Source]

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Issue Related News Stories

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