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# Improving Access to Behavioral Health Services for Military and Veterans

Mid-Atlantic and North East Regional Community of Practice  
Professional Training Event  
September 30, 2020

Please note: Headphones are  
recommended for best audio quality

# Welcome & Introductions

Regional Community of Practice Champion

**Christy Kenady**

Senior Manager,

ServingTogether, a program of EveryMind

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# EveryMind strengthens communities and empowers individuals to reach optimal mental wellness



- Counseling and Case Management for Child, Youth and Families
- Crisis Phone/Text/Chat Line
- Service Coordination for Veterans, Service Members and their Families
- Community Education

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# Regional Community of Practice

- EveryMind serves as our Regional Community of Practice Champion for the Mid-Atlantic & North East Regions
  - **ServingTogether**, National Capital Region
  - **Mission United**, South Hampton Roads
  - **PA Serves**, Greater Pittsburgh
  - **RIServes**, Rhode Island
  - **NYC Veterans | VetConnectNYC**, New York City
- Conducting these trainings based on feedback we receive from you
  - More to come soon
  - We need your feedback!



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# Keynote



**Terri Tanielian**  
*Senior Behavioral Scientist*  
RAND Corporation

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Sources for Tanielian Keynote Presentation on “Improving Access to Behavioral Health Care for Military Veterans”

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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: National Survey on Drug Use and Health, data on Veterans <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2018-nsduh-veterans>

# Panel Discussion

Moderator

**Dr. Caitlin Thompson**

*Vice President of Community Partnerships*  
**Cohen Veterans Network**



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# OUR CARE AT A GLANCE

## WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

### Veterans

Post-9/11 veterans who served in the United States Armed Services, including the National Guard and Reserves, regardless of role while in uniform, discharge status, or combat experience.

### Military Family Members

Parents, siblings, spouses or partners, children, caretakers, and others of veterans, active duty, or fallen service members.

## BENEFITS OVERVIEW

### Available to All

All post-9/11 veterans and military families are eligible for care. Care is free for those with no insurance.

### Same-day crisis support

Same-day crisis support is available at all Cohen Clinics. 96% of clients reported getting their first appointment as soon as they wanted it.

### More than mental health

We provide support for related needs including unemployment, housing, finance, and education. Telehealth and childcare are offered on a clinic-by-clinic basis.

## HOW WE WORK

### What we treat

A variety of mental health issues including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, adjustment issues, anger, grief and loss, family issues, transition challenges, relationship problems, and children's behavioral problems.

### Guaranteed confidentiality

We will not share your confidential information with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or other public, private, or government entities unless required by law. We comply with federal guidelines set by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

### Genuine care

Our skilled clinicians and staff have been trained to work specifically with veterans and their families, and some are veterans themselves. We build the trusting and confidential relationships necessary to provide excellent, personalized care.

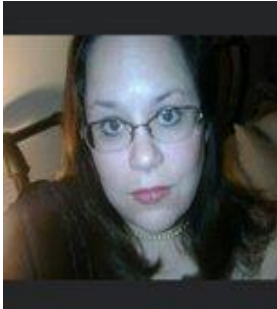




# Panel



**John Howard**  
*United States Army Disabled  
Veteran*  
*Veteran Peer Support Specialist*  
**Western Tidewater Community  
Services Board**



**Joann "Michelle" Bradford,**  
**LCSW, MAC, CSAC**  
*Drug Abuse Program  
Coordinator*  
**Hampton Veteran Affairs  
Medical Center**



**Iman Williams Christians, PhD**  
*Clinic Director*  
**Steven A. Cohen Military Family  
Clinic**



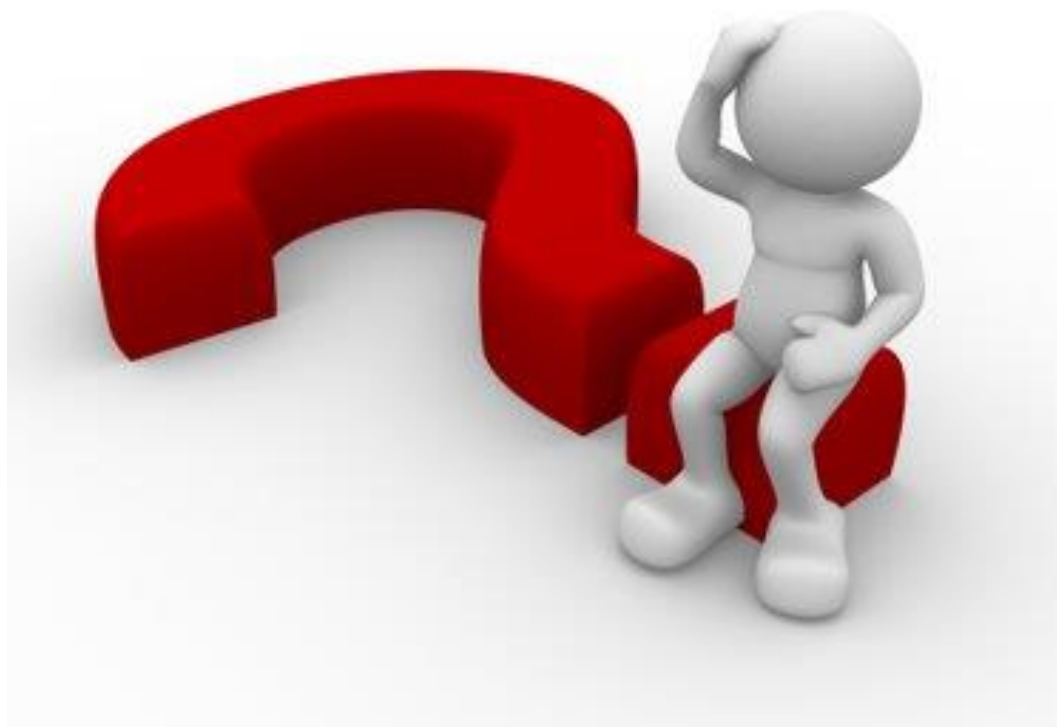
**Kawanna Ward, DCC,**  
**LCSW, CSAC, CSOTP, RPT-S**  
**Blakely Weaver Counseling  
Center, Inc.**



**Mary C. Vance, MD, MSC**  
*Assistant Professor,*  
**Department of Psychiatry  
Uniformed Services  
University**  
*Scientist, Center for the  
Study of Traumatic Stress*

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# Questions?

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# Closing Remarks

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