



# The Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)

*APHA Late Breaker Session: Improving Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services to Returning Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan: Dialogue between returning veterans and service providers and other health professionals*

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

# Special Feature for US Military Veterans



The **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** has a new feature for veterans. Call for yourself, or someone you care about: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and press 1. Your call is free and confidential.



## Collaborative Initiative to Help End Chronic Homelessness

- Broward County, FL
- Chattanooga, TN
- Chicago, IL
- Columbus, OH
- Contra Costa County, CA
- Denver, CO
- Los Angeles, CA
- New York, NY
- Philadelphia, PA
- Portland, OR
- San Francisco, CA



# Efforts

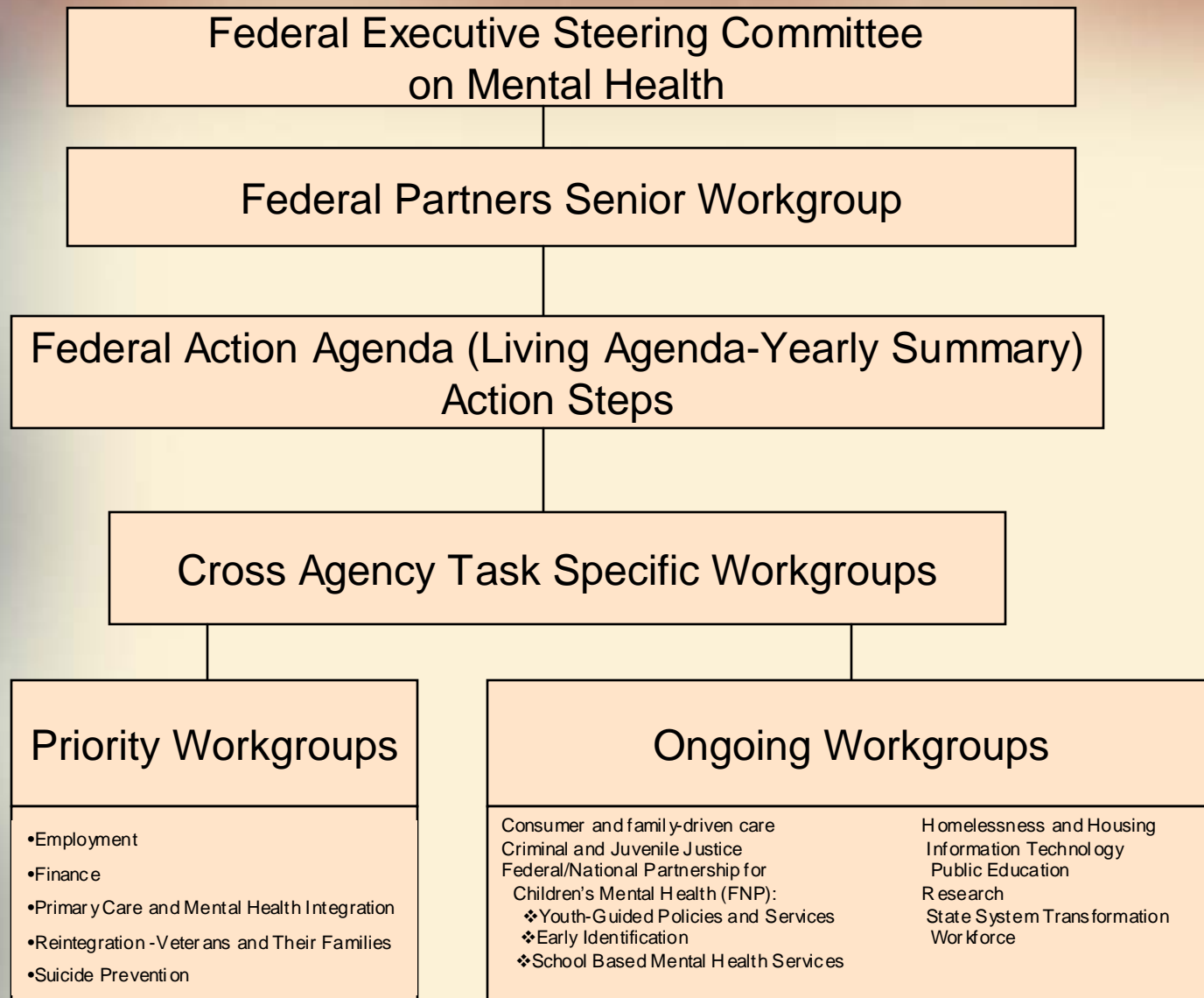
- CMHS will award grants to eight communities within the Children's Mental Health Initiative (CMHI) that demonstrate on applications a history or well-developed plans to address children and families of veterans regarding mental health issues.
- CMHS Federal Project Officers for the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Program monitors State service providers to ensure that they maintain a solid capacity and commitment to serve Veterans – and ensure that clinicians are aware that mental health issues such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, anxiety disorders, and clinical depression, often compounded by co-morbid substance abuse, are issues that are often directly related to the individual Veteran's homelessness.
- CMHS annual PATH Grant Request for Applications (RFA) provides language to all State provider agency, asking them to describe how special consideration is given in awarding PATH funds to entities with a demonstrated effectiveness in serving homeless veterans.



## Efforts cont'

- CMHS has had on-going participation in the Consumer Council of the Veterans Administration's Serious Mental Illness Committee. This has included consultation on the following:
  - addressing stigma
  - developing self-help approaches
  - promoting the concept of recovery
- CMHS' Statewide Family Network Program, which provides information, education, and support to families with children who have serious mental health challenges, has grantees who have been using their grant funds to provide outreach and support efforts specifically to families where there is a family member serving in the military and the children are experiencing mental health issues.

# Transforming Mental Health Care in America Structure and Process





# Federal Action Agenda

## Federal Partner Senior Workgroup for Mental Health

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Defense
- Education
- Administration on Aging
- Administration on Children and Families
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
- Centers for Disease Control
- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Health Resources and Services Administration
- Indian Health Service
- National Institutes of Health
  - NIAAA, NIMH, NIDA
- Office for Civil Rights
- Office on Disability
- Office of Public Health and Science
- Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Justice
- Department of Labor
- Social Security Administration
- Department of Transportation
- Veteran's Affairs