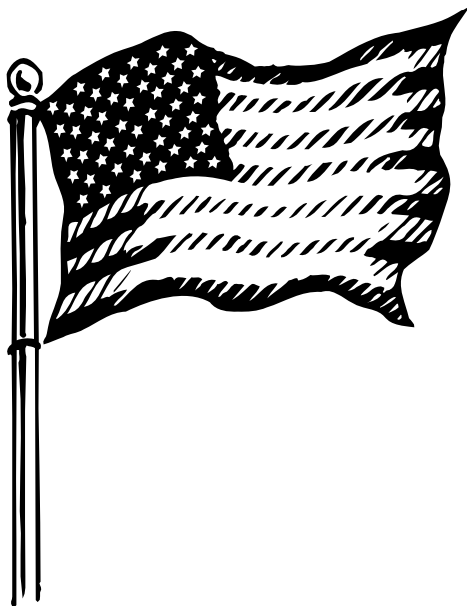


*sponsored by the Continued Learning Center, Itasca Community College,
the 88th RSC and the Minneapolis VAMC.*

Twin Ports VAMC
ATTN: Jeff M. Hall
3520 Tower Ave
Superior, WI 54880



How Do We Effectively Help the Returning Veteran?



Friday, February 2, 2007
9:00 a.m.~3:00 p.m.

Davies Hall Theatre
Itasca Community College
1851 E Highway 169, Grand Rapids
218.327.4465



How Do We Effectively Help the Returning Veteran?

Friday, February 2, 2007

9:00 a.m.~3:00 p.m. (*Lunch on your own: 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.*)

Davies Hall Theatre, Itasca Community College

This all day workshop is to help educate community providers — counselors, social workers, mental health, chemical dependency, psychologists, nurses, doctors, community leaders and others on the issues they may encounter working with veterans and their families. Nearly 7 of 10 Veterans will seek care via their community provider.

Speakers:

Jeff Hall, MSW, LCSW, Major (Ret): Returning Veterans (OIF, OEF) Rural Outreach Social Worker for the Department of Veterans Affairs will brief on reintegration issues of returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan and their families, VA services and ideas for community providers. The objective is to prevent future disabling conditions through improving access to care and developing early preventative interventions. Maj Hall has deployed previously to the Persian Gulf War (90-91) and Bosnia (2003-2004). *9:00-10:00 a.m.*

Maj Cynthia M. Rasmussen, RN, MSN, CANP, Combat Operational Stress Control Officer, SARC-Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, 88th Regional Readiness Command, Surgeon's Office, Ft. Snelling, MN will cover the prevalence, effects and military posture towards sexual assault and domestic violence. She works full time for the Department of Veterans Affairs, currently servicing a second tour of active duty in this capacity. *10-10:40 a.m.*

Mark Haschka, Veteran's Employment Representative for Grand Rapids, Hibbing, and Aitkin Workforce Centers, BS, University of Minnesota is a decorated Vietnam Combat Veteran. He works with Veterans, Veteran's Spouses, and employers to register for employment on the Minnesota Job Bank, compose resumes, job search, refer them to job openings, and refer them to training and employment barrier solutions and resources. Priority focus is on Chapter 31 Disabled Veterans. *10:40-11:00 a.m.*

Michelle Nies, BS in Family Life and Child Development with a minor in Early Childhood Education and Parent Education, MN Military Family Assistance Center, Duluth, MN can assist families with questions and concerns in areas of Tri-Care, DEERS, ID Cards, financial and legal issues, Red Cross concerns and calls ranging from plumbing issues to child care. FAC's (Family Assistance Centers) are an information source for a variety of services and able to connect customers with one or more of the many organizations in Minnesota. *11:00-11:30 a.m.*

Mary Helfmann, TRICARE Program Negotiator, Minnesota Military Health Network

TRICARE provider handbook, quick reference guides, program and benefits updates, referrals and authorizations, updates on consult tracking, claims and reimbursement, outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS), electronic claims submission helpful hints and online tools, are the topics covered. *12:30-1:30 p.m.*

Pat Cortese, Director of Children's Mental Health Service/REACH Agency in Itasca County, PhD in Human Services with a focus on children's mental and a Licensed Psychologist provides program management, clinical supervision, and direct clinical evaluation and treatment services for children. She will present on the impact on children when faced when family members are deployed. *1:30-2:30 p.m.*

Dennis Hughes, BA, Capt (Ret), Vietnam, Desert Shield/Storm, Retired Postmaster, USPS will brief on issues of his active military service as a 19 year old enlisted soldier returning home to later experiences as a 40 year old officer deployed for Desert Shield/Storm and returning to civilian employment. He will reflect on his personal mobilization and demobilization experiences for both his Active and Reserve service covering a span of 25 years. He will relate impressions and first hand experiences with his service transition with family, friends, unit and job. *2:30-3:00 p.m.*

Registration through the Itasca Community College Continued Learning Center (218-327-4465) is required to receive a certificate of completion. Fee is \$45.

There is no fee if credit is not required.