



**SUMMIT 2011** National Training Summit  
on Women Veterans



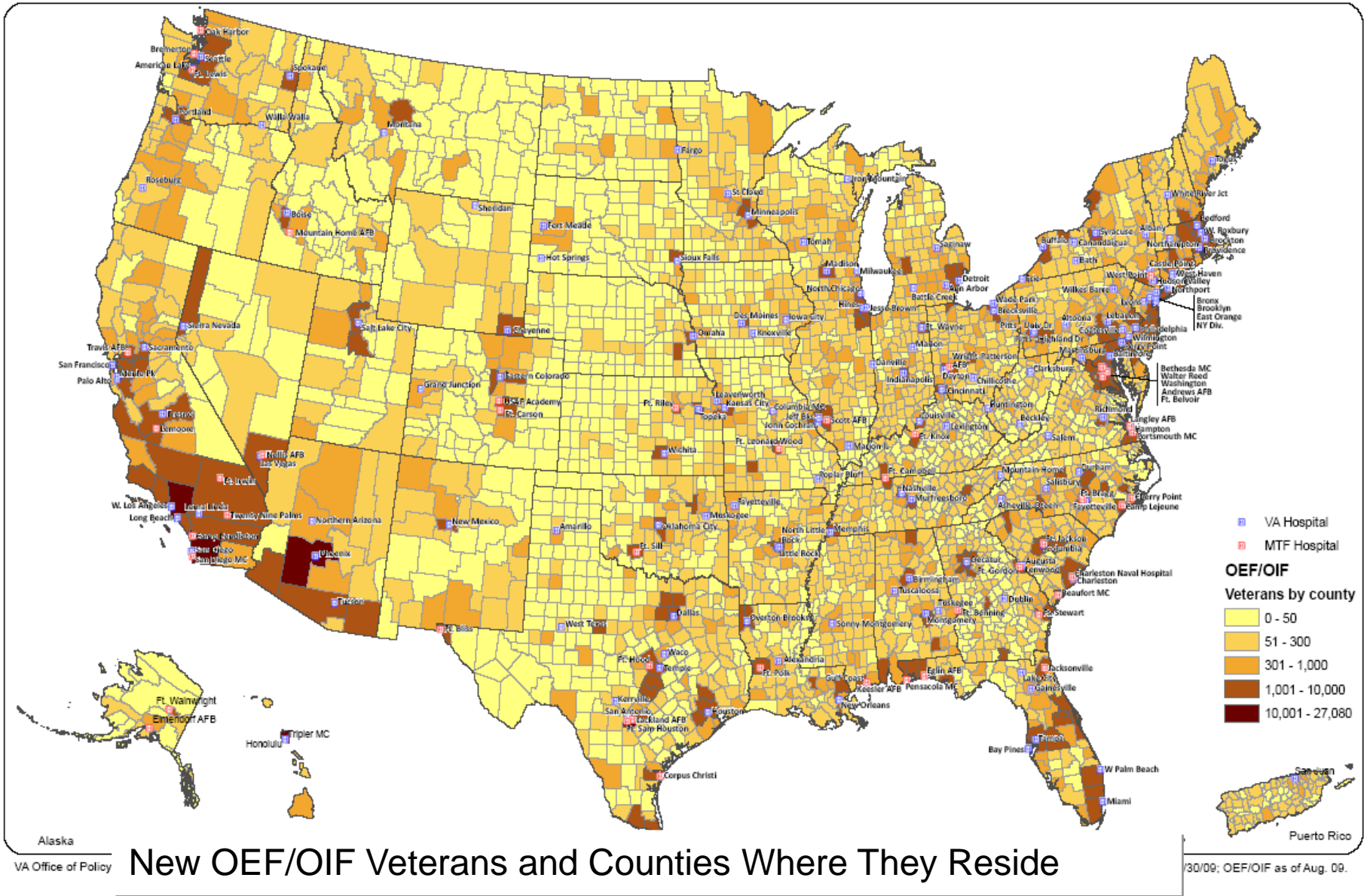
# **OEF/OIF Veteran's Initiatives**

**Karen Malebranche**

*Acting Chief Officer*

*VHA Interagency Health Affairs*

# Distribution of OEF/OIF Veterans Relative to VA Medical Center and Military Hospital Locations



## Women Veterans Who Separated from Active Duty and Utilize VA care

| Services                    | Separated | Use VA Services |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Army/Air Guard              | 32,517    | 17,288          |
| Reserves                    | 34,728    | 17,120          |
| Former Active Duty          | 80,576    | 43,675          |
| <b>Breakdown By Service</b> |           |                 |
| Army Guard                  |           | 15,241          |
| Air Force Guard             |           | 2,047           |
| Air Force Reserve           |           | 10,380          |
| Army Reserve                |           | 20,192          |
| Coast Guard Reserve         |           | 36              |
| Marine Reserve              |           | 2,664           |

Source: OEF/OIF/OND HCU for April 2011

# OEF/OIF Injuries and Illnesses

## Women Veterans Illness/Injuries an Utilize VA Services

Top OEF/OIF Women Veterans' Illness/Injuries since 2002

| Illness/Injury            | Total Injured |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Musculo-Skeletal          | 42,052        |
| Ill Defined<br>Conditions | 41,792        |
| Mental Disorders          | 38,033        |
| Nervous Disorders         | 32,171        |
| GU system                 | 30,422        |
| Digestive System          | 29,469        |
| Respiratory               | 25,381        |
|                           |               |

## Women Veterans Who Separated and Utilize VA Health Care

| FEMALES WHO SEPARATED | Separated<br>147,821 | Using VA Health Care<br>78,083 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
|                       | FREQUENCY            | NUMBER                         |
| <b>Race/Ethnicity</b> |                      |                                |
| White                 | 61,106               | 30,599                         |
| Black                 | 25,395               | 14,833                         |
| Hispanic              | 15,012               | 8,202                          |
| Others                | 12,082               | 5,678                          |
| Unknown               | 34,226               | 18,71                          |
| <b>Age Group</b>      |                      |                                |
| 16-30                 | 73,361               | 37,645                         |
| 31-40                 | 43,181               | 22,652                         |
| 41-50                 | 23,566               | 13,314                         |
| 51-60                 | 7,114                | 4,109                          |
| 61-84                 | 576                  | 355                            |
| <b>Branch</b>         |                      |                                |
| Air Force             | 35,207               | 14,057                         |
| Army                  | 79,547               | 48,346                         |
| Coast Guard           | 151                  | 45                             |
| Marine                | 5,624                | 3,076                          |
| Navy                  | 27,292               | 12,559                         |
| <b>Unit Type</b>      |                      |                                |
| Active Duty           | 80,576               | 43,675                         |
| Reserve/Guard         | 67,245               | 34,408                         |
| <b>Rank</b>           |                      |                                |
| Enlisted              | 129,708              | 70,287                         |
| Officer               | 18,113               | 7,796                          |

**Source: VA Healthcare Utilization** April 2011

*SUMMIT*

5 *2011*

# Reaching Out To Veterans



Welcome Home and  
Yellow Ribbon Event



In 2010, VHA hosted or attended more than **4,400** outreach events across the Nation.

VHA staff personally met with

- More than **750,000** Veterans
- More than **207,000** family members

*SUMMIT*

6 *2011*

# Women Veteran Programs

Women Veterans may receive:

- Full continuum of medical benefits package
- Women's family planning and birth control, gender-specific health care, e.g. hormone replacement therapy, breast and GYN care, maternity, limited infertility
- Special considerations
  - Each facility has a Women Veterans Program Manager
  - Women's Trauma Recovery Program (Palo Alto) inpatient post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and military sexual trauma (MST) treatment

# Veterans Crisis Line

In just three years, the Veterans Crisis Line has helped nearly **380,000** Veterans and directly saved nearly **13,000** lives.



An expanded number of lines, the addition of an online chat feature and targeted advertising have made the Veterans Crisis Line program more accessible than ever.

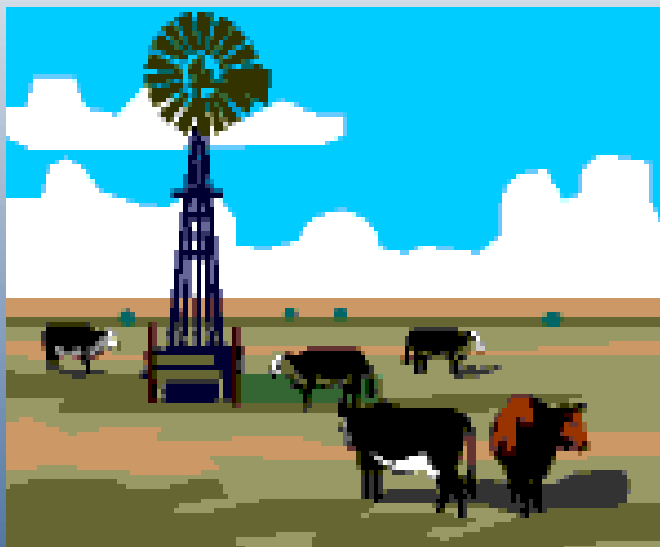
**1-800-273-TALK**

The banner is divided into two main sections. On the left, the Veterans Crisis Line logo is displayed, consisting of a blue speech bubble with a white star, a grid of red dots, and the text "Veterans Crisis Line" and "1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1". On the right, there is a quote in blue text: "I AM A VETERAN. Calling the confidential Veterans Crisis Line can help. I know." Below the quote is a photograph of a man with a beard and mustache, looking directly at the camera, with an American flag in the background.



# Reaching Rural Veterans

VA estimates approximately **43** percent of all Veterans live in rural areas. Of the **3,414,983** rural Veterans enrolled in VA health care, **2,288,039** were treated in 2010.



VA continues to expand health access to rural Veterans through:

Mobile Health Clinics

Home-Based Telehealth

Fee Basis Care and  
Community Medical  
Partnerships

*SUMMIT*

, 2011

# 1. Demobilization Initiative



Source: VHA Outreach Reporting System

Army  
Navy  
Marines  
Air Force  
Coast Guard

Since 2008

- 63 Demob Sites
- 167,625 VA encounters
- 158,892 VA enrolled

# 2. DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

- Origin
  - Established January 28, 2008 – NDAA 2008 (PL 110-181)
    - Mandates creation of the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program
  - Amended October 28, 2008 – NDAA 2010 (PL 111-84)
    - Section 595 – establishes suicide prevention and community healing program within the Yellow Ribbon Program

## 2. DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

- Focus of Program

To provide support and outreach to National Guard and Reserve members, and their families throughout the deployment cycle

- Military Units host Yellow Ribbon events across the country

Various agencies and programs, including VBA and VHA, provide briefings, information, referrals, and/or consultation at events

# 3. Transition Assistance Advisors (TAAs)



**62 TAAs in 50 states, PR, VI, GU and DC**  
**VA and National Guard Partnership**  
**and State Coalitions**

# 4. Combat Veteran Call Center Initiative

- Phone calls to 700,000 Veterans
- Made contact with 504,189 Veterans (74.6%)
- Spoke with 176,904 Veterans (24.5%)
- Sent 40,651 information packages to Veterans



# 5. Post-Deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA)



90-180 Days Post-Deployment

# Reserve Component PDHRA FY 2006-2010

| Reserve/Guard | SMs with DD-2900 in DMSS* | Any Referral Indicated | VAMC Referral | Vet Center Referral |
|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Army          | 264,030                   | 42%                    | 28%           | 9%                  |
| Navy          | 22,265                    | 26%                    | 15%           | 6%                  |
| Air Force     | 58,681                    | 17%                    | 1%            | 1%                  |
| Marine Corps  | 23,909                    | 38%                    | 17%           | 6%                  |
| Total         | 368,885                   | 37%                    | 23%           | 7%                  |

•If a SM has more than one DD 2900 in DMSS, the most recent form (based on today's date) was used

•Data as of 10 Sept 2010 Source: VHA Outreach Reporting System

SUMMIT

16 2011



# 6. Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and Individual Member Augmentee (IMA) Musters



20-minute presentation  
on VA health care,  
women's health  
programs, benefits,  
and Vet Centers

# 7. Internet Presence

In an effort to strengthen engagement with Veterans, their families, and the public, VA has established an online presence using popular social media websites.



2600+ Fans



250+ Followers



35 Videos Posted



Second Life

Interactive island established that users can visit to find out information about VHA.

# OEF/OIF Veterans and Eligibility

VA provides enhanced enrollment opportunity **and five years of cost-free health care** to Veterans who served in a theater of combat operations, for any injury or illness associated with this service

# Eligibility

- Veterans who served in the active military, naval or air service and who were discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable
- Former Reservists who served full-time and for operational or support (excludes training purposes)
- Former National Guard members if mobilized by a Federal order

# Non-Combat Theater Veterans Eligibility

Veterans who have not deployed to a Combat Theatre of Operations may be eligible to enroll in VA health care if:

- You are single with prior year annual income below \$29,402
- Veterans with income below \$35,284 for a Veteran with one dependent and \$2,020 for each additional dependent
- Service-connected disabled Veteran
- Once you are enrolled into VA Healthcare, you may be charged co-pays for services not related to a service-connected disability.

# VA Treatment of Non-Combat Related Conditions

Veterans Who Experience Non-Service Connected Illness/Injuries Post Deployment may be charged a co-pay at VA for treatment of these conditions (i.e., flu, colds, auto accident, etc. )

# Summary

1. Provide a Face to Face encounter with VA staff
2. Reach-out to combat Veterans in need of readjustment counseling and behavioral health services during early post-deployment period
3. Facilitate on site enrollment and access to VA health care
4. Promote the development of long-term relationships between local VHA facilities and Reserve Component Units and Wings
5. Select VA as their choice for health care now and for a lifetime

# The Way Ahead

- Outreach to Wounded Warriors
- Women Veteran Call Center
- Transition Assistance Program (DoD/DOL/VA)





Questions?

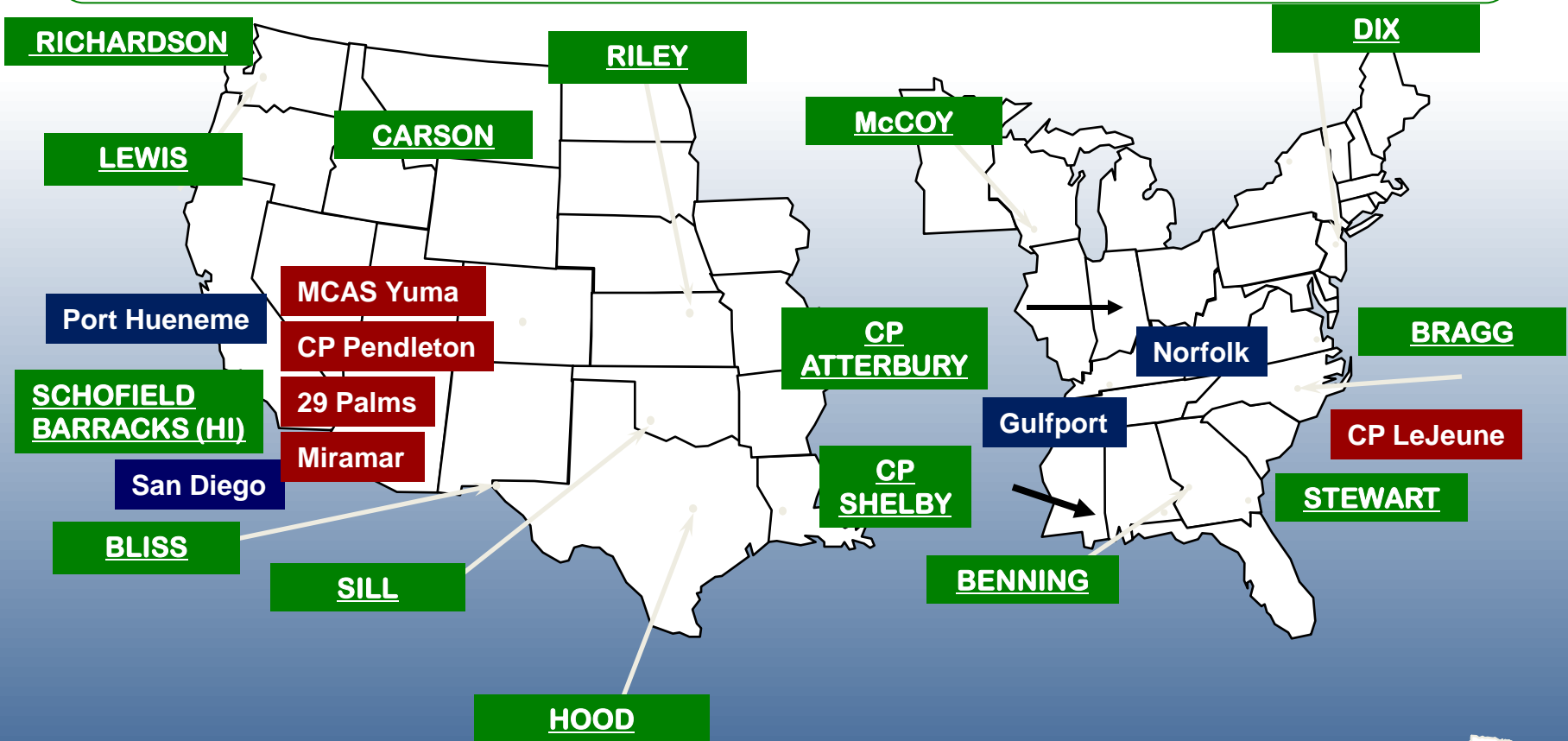
# Back-up slides

# ACTIVE DUTY DEMOBILIZATION SITES

15-ARMY

4-NAVY

5-USMC



# ACTIVE DUTY DEMOBILIZATION SITES

## Air Force Sites

