

Crisis on The Homefront

By: Tena Olson Veteran's Advocate



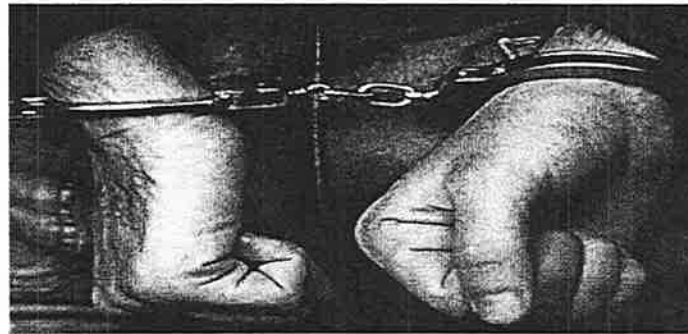
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Winning The War at Home

- **Filling the Void, Building Trust**

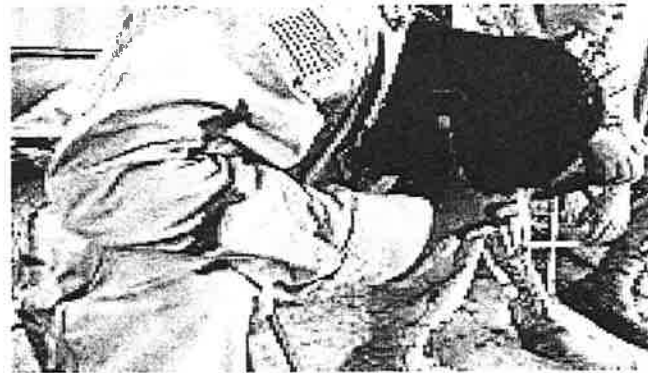
- **Is to have a system in place where a Soldier or Veteran can find that Resource that is Centralized and Non Threatening to where we can guide them through Transition.**
- **"Unless people feel comfortable that the person they're speaking to on the other end is actually a veteran, we can't do what we want to do. It's critical that we authenticate members. There needs to be a built-in trust."**
- **Law enforcement personnel should understand that not all wounds of war are visible. In addition to PTSD, many combat veterans experience feelings of alienation and isolation, guilt, fear, and shame, along with an undefined sense of anger.**



Winning The War at Home

Financial Problems Plagues Military Members

- **If financial problems emerge** -- namely a lack of money -- many veterans won't reach out for help until there situation is desperate.
- Where Continued Health Care Benefits gets re-evaluated to where it is impossible to remain on Tricare.
- Veteran that is going back to College and since there is no Campus VSO's, there is no Career Counseling for Vets.





Winning The War at Home

- **Today's Military Veterans Prepare for a Career After Combat**
 - **The job application process is like being on a standard patrol.** It's tedious, boring and often seems uneventful – but it's also extremely important! When you least expect it, the time to take action will go speeding by. If you get side-tracked, discouraged or lackadaisical, you'll miss your opportunity take action.
 - **Using the Post 9/11 and if you are attending College that 4-8 Months your Basic Allowance for Housing is prorated if Fulltime Student with a loss which can be up to 50 percent of the BAH because of the State didn't want to contribute to the GI Bill for Title 32 Soldiers.**
 - **What is disappointing that The Reintegration program does not Access all programs in Oregon like Hire Oregon Vets that has Excellent Transitioning Programs and Monies to use for the OEF/OEF Veterans.**

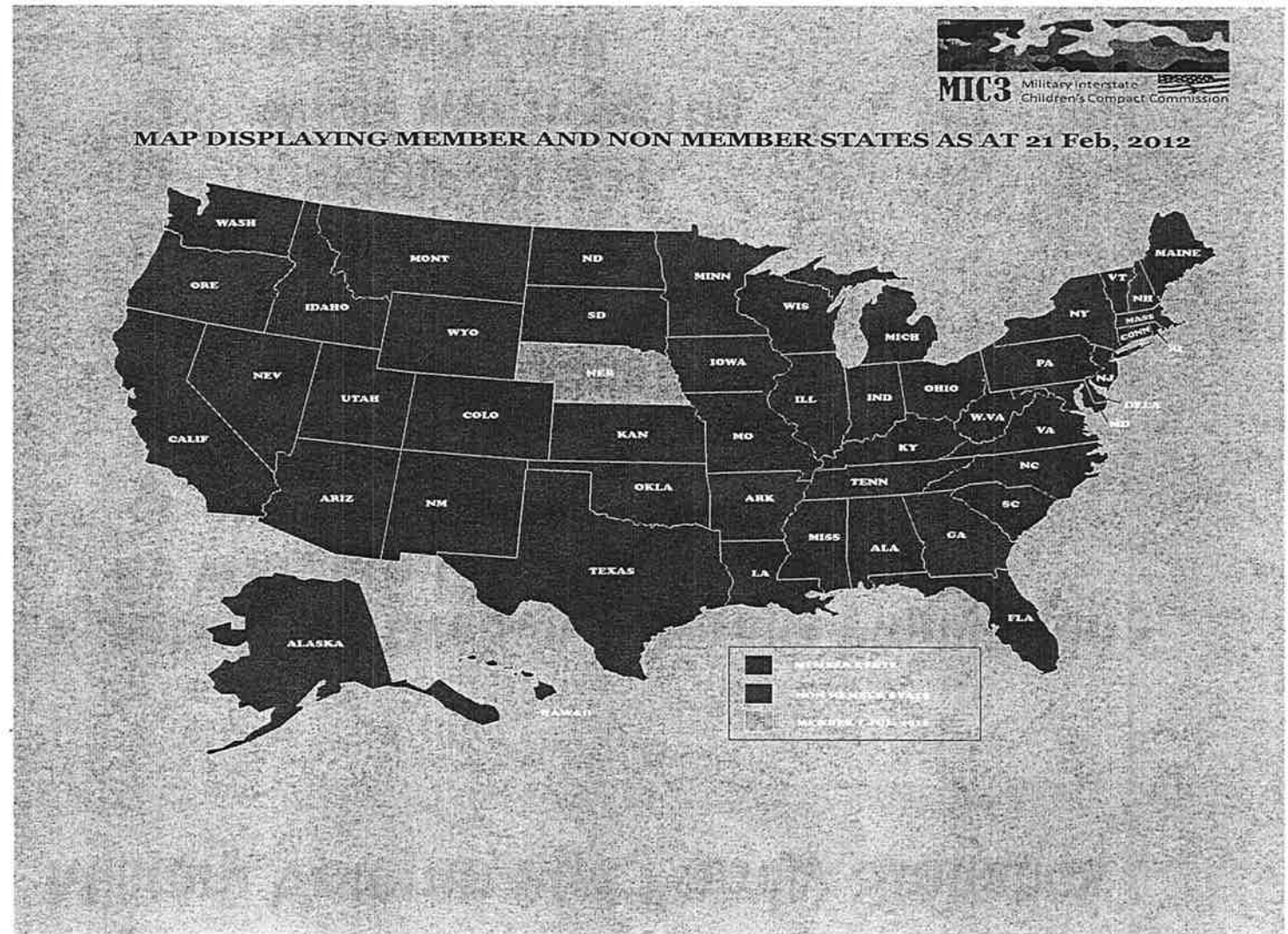


Military Veteran and Family Statistics

- **Estimated Oregon Veterans Population -
By War/Era (2010) 333,800**

- ☐ Veterans Living in Oregon 333,800
- ☐ Wartime Veterans 248,400
- ☐ Woman Veterans 25,300
- ☐ Vietnam Veteran 118,600
- ☐ Persian Gulf 65,455
- ☐ OEF/OIF 21,731
- ☐ World War II 32,100
- ☐ Korean 37,500

Member and Non Member States as of 2012





Preparing for a Career after Combat

- Unemployment Among Veterans (Dept. of Labor as of 2011)
 - OEF/OIF Veterans 13 %
 - Overall 9.9 %
 - Other Eras 8.6 %
- Veterans Surveyed in 2012 (Done by Military.com)
 - ◆ Unsure how to professionally network 57 %
 - ◆ Feel Unprepared to Negotiate Salary or Benefits. 72%
 - ◆ Unable to Translate Military Skills 76%



Financial and Legal Problems

◆ Finance and Legal Problems of Oregon Veterans

- ◆ We need to implement Veterans Treatment Courts which has led a number of states to introduce bills pertaining to veterans in the criminal justice system and establishing Veterans Treatment Courts. All we have here in Oregon is SB 999 which isn't being told or introduced to Veterans out in the Community.
 - It Cost 20,000 a year in Prison but only 3500 or less in a Diversion program if they process through a Veterans Court.
- ◆ Home Foreclosures – Finances are cut back to the bone once they are back from Deployment and told they wont deploy for another year when they have created dependency on Combat pay.
- ◆ Veterans reaching out for help at the right time is a very hard task for them and what we are lacking in this State is a Centralized Resource Hub for them to access that is Non-Threating
- ◆ Employment issues can be a factor even among reservists who work for supportive employers. Often, the challenges inherent in military duty can impact a soldier's satisfaction with his or her civilian position. Meaning loss of Monies in the household or With tough economic times on employers that it becomes incompatible on both sides.



Problem Solving

- ◆ Creating a Certain Member Task Force with State Agencies, County agencies, Non-Profits on working together and creating Bridges of Resources for Veterans.
 - ◆ VFW
 - ◆ American Legions
 - ◆ IAVA
- ◆ Working with Veterans Advocates of Releasing of Information on a rotating Basis of Up-To-Date accessible programs that Veterans can use.
- ◆ Putting back College and Counties VSO's for better Advocacy.
- ◆ In need of Older Veterans and Eras with Monies Assistance for Emergencies.
- ◆ To make a Clearing House of Resources (Fort Oregon has not worked or been updated for over a year)
 - ◆ 211 Program

Resources for Veterans



Returning Veterans Project

free counseling and other health services
for returning veterans and their families



CENTRAL CITY
concern



OPERATION
HOMEFRONT



Safe Harbor

treatment center for women

A healing place for women since 1983



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FREE PEER SUPPORT FOR IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN-ERA VETS



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