

Presented by



It's in the Public Interest: The Mental Health Needs of the Military

MHA of Montgomery County's Annual Legislative Briefing Breakfast



Friday, October 31, 2008 • 7:30 am - 10:00 am
Hilton Washington DC/Rockville • 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Your Leading Mental Health Resource
1000 Twinbrook Parkway
Rockville, MD 20851



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The Mental Health Needs of the Military**
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What & When:

Friday, October 31, 2008 • 7:30 am - 10:00 am

Where:

Hilton Washington DC/Rockville
1750 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852
301.468.1100

How:

Directions from North and East Maryland:
• I-95 South to Washington Beltway I-495 West/Silver Spring Avenue/Exit 34, Route 355 North (Wisconsin Avenue/Rockville Pike)
• Proceed approximately 3-4 miles on Rockville Pike and the Hilton Washington DC/Rockville will be on your right after the Rollins Avenue/Twinbrook Parkway intersection.

Directions from Points South:
• Take route appropriate from your location toward Washington Beltway I-95 North to I-495 North/East heading to Rockville/Lysons Corner.
• Take I-495 to I-270 North toward Frederick to exit 4A Montrose Road East.
• Proceed approximately 2-3 miles and make a left onto Rockville Pike (Route 355 North).
• Proceed on Rockville Pike through 4 stoplights and the Hilton Washington DC/Rockville will be on your right after the Rollins Avenue/Twinbrook Parkway intersection



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This year's briefing will focus on the mental health needs of the military. Tom Tarantino, a Policy Associate for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) and an Iraq veteran, will offer the keynote address for the briefing. The program will continue with Laura Copland, Director of Behavioral Health Disaster Services and Lt. Governor's Veteran's Initiative for the State of Maryland, who will speak about national and state legislation related to this important issue.

MHA Bell Award

Mental Health Association will present its annual Bell Award at the conclusion of the event. Each year this award is presented to an individual or organization that represents continued support and dedication to mental health and stigma reduction. This year, MHA is pleased to present the award to Deloitte, a company that has gone above and beyond in its activities to help veterans who have developed mental health challenges and those with physical disabilities to start and maintain new careers.

The award is a symbol of the Mental Health Bell, cast from melted down chains and shackles once used to bind mental health patients at asylums. Today, the 300-pound Mental Health Bell rings out hope for improving mental health and achieving victory over mental illness.

Keynote Speaker

Tom Tarantino is a Policy Associate for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) and an Iraq veteran. IAVA is the country's first and largest non-profit, nonpartisan group for veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Tarantino enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves in 1997 as a Civil Affairs Specialist. He served in Bosnia in 2000, where he assisted with the repatriation of over 3000 refugees, and in Iraq in 2005, where he served as both a Cavalry and Mortar Platoon Leader with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. As a Cavalry Platoon Leader, his primary mission was to lead security patrols through North Baghdad; providing stability and support to the Iraqi people trying to rebuild their country. As a Mortar Platoon Leader, Mr. Tarantino led the base Quick Reaction Force, providing first response defense to FOB Abu Ghraib. He also conducted over 500 mortar missions in West Baghdad. Mr. Tarantino was awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Iraq.

Legislative Update Speaker

Laura J. Copland, MA, LCMHC, is the Director of Behavioral Health Disaster Services and the Lt. Governor's Veteran's Initiative for the State of Maryland. She has been instrumental in designing and facilitating behavioral health services in New Hampshire and Maryland and has more than 20 years of direct service experience in working with survivors of trauma and acute and post-traumatic stress issues. Ms. Copland was awarded the State of Maryland Meritorious Civilian Service Medal by the Maryland Army National Guard for her work in designing and implementing the Reintegration Academies for all returning Maryland veterans and their families.

In the event of inclement weather, please call the MHA's offices at (301) 424-0656 after 6 am on the day of the event for a message about the status of the briefing.

Registration Form | It's In the Public Interest: The Mental Health Needs of the Military

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SPACE LIMITED; REGISTER EARLY

Briefing Fees

\$50 MHA Member

\$60 Non-member

\$40 Student

Breakfast Provided

Name	Licensure	
Title		
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Credit card #	Exp. Date	
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Secure online credit card registration available at www.mhamc.org

Please mail payment to: Mental Health Association
Attn: Legislative Briefing Breakfast
1000 Twinbrook Pkwy., Rockville, MD 20851

or fax completed form to: (301) 738-1030, Attn: Legislative Briefing Breakfast

Event Agenda

7:30 am – 8:00am Registration

8:00 am – 10:00am Legislative Briefing and Breakfast

Mental Health Association's Legislative Priorities:

- Community Response to Critical Events
- Access to the Public Mental Health System
- Integrated and Coordinated Early Childhood and School-based Mental Health Services
- Juvenile Justice Reform
- Affordable Housing for Adults with Mental Illness

Who should attend?

Elected officials, policy makers, the business community, mental health advocates and consumers, deliverers of mental health services, mental health professionals and individuals interested in the current state of mental health services.

About Mental Health Association

Mental Health Association (MHA) promotes mental wellness and supports those with mental illness by sponsoring and implementing advocacy, education and community service programs. A private, nonprofit, United Way (#8151) agency, MHA has served Montgomery County for over 50 years. MHA currently manages 11 major direct service programs for children, teens, families, senior adults and individuals with long-term mental illness. Over 1,000 volunteers implement programs under the direction of MHA professional staff. To help further the philosophy that mental health is as important as physical health, MHA offers affordable, valuable and timely seminars on a variety of topics to various segments of the community.

Montgomery County Executive's New Military Initiatives

County Executive Ike Leggett has made Veterans a high priority for his administration. Mr. Leggett will discuss recent actions he has taken to respond to Veteran's needs and announce new initiatives to prepare the County as home to the new Armed Forces Hospital in Bethesda and anticipated greater numbers of veterans from the Middle Eastern wars.

Please make checks payable to:
MHA Legislative Briefing Breakfast
No refunds will be made after Tuesday, October 28, 2008
For more information: (301) 424-0656 or info@mhamc.org