



The Faith-based Alliances have found that SMs will visit chaplain before requesting behavioral health services. In some states, the faith-based initiative is a sub-committee under the behavioral health alliance.

Ms. Williams was asked what the relationship is between Military OneSource (MOS) and AOS. MOS is a DoD initiative whereas AOS is an Army initiative. The AOS doesn't provide direct services and works at the state level to build alliances. AOS will refer callers to MOS for direct services.

Flo stated that we have had an ongoing problem with coordinating the multiple websites and resources for SMs, veterans, and their families. The Focus website does include links to CSSP, [www.warwithin.org](http://www.warwithin.org) (health provider database), and other resources. Ms. Stein suggested that she and Ms. Williams meet to determine the best ways to link these resources.

Ms. Pacelli mentioned that AHEC had provided training for the faith-based community to support the military community. She suggested that Ms. Williams contact Debbie Rogers at Eastern AHEC in Greenville. In addition, Ms. Pacelli mentioned that a free faith-based toolkit is available and includes everything (e.g., PowerPoint slides) for a one-day training.

Ms. Williams is a member of a parent committee in Cumberland; they are working to provide training to school counselors and other school staff in Fayetteville in August. John Bigger at the SR-AHEC is working with them to provide a speaker.

#### **Focus Group Updates:**

Mr. Hargrove is interested in collaborating with Ms. Williams. Ms. Williams says she plans to send e-vites to be part of the alliance's first planning meeting in NC.

Mr. Harris has been working with Fayetteville State University on their HRSA-funded comprehensive Collaborative Institute for Interprofessional Education and Practice. The Institute offers free services and is identifying ways to involve student veterans. He is also in the process of creating a student veteran initiative for HBCUs. In the peer initiative, 10 have been certified as peer specialists thus far, with 30 more to be certified. The 60-hour certification goes through UNC; the peers take a standing curriculum. They are in the process of developing a veteran-specific module. Mr. Harris also mentioned that he presented his work with GIS services to BRAC and that they plan to pilot a program in the Fayetteville area. He noted that he was recently a presenter on a SAMHSA-sponsored webinar on veteran peers. Interest was high, with nearly 1400 attending.

Mr. Taggart has not had any feedback from the legislature on the report that was submitted in response to SB 597.

Ms. Stanley reported that on May 4, the Lucy Daniels Center, is hosting an event that is free to families in North Hills. The event will celebrate books that promote healthy development in children,

with an emphasis on early childhood. They will bring in celebrated book readers and have a few prizes to distribute. The purpose is to increase community awareness about health in young children. Lucy Daniels has also modified the Secure Path model to serve military families in Wake County and surrounding counties, as well as expanding the school programs in Cary NC.

Ms. McAllister and Dr. Kudler attended a documentary movie about military sexual trauma (MST). The movie was followed by a panel discussion consisting of representatives from law enforcement, Fort Bragg, and NC National Guard. Over 100 attended; the event was well received, with many participating in Q&A.

Ms. McAllister also attended an awareness concert hosted by the NC National Guard. Kristian Hall coordinated the event and provided information.

Mr. Hargrove said that a few agencies will sponsor a seminar in Henderson on MST in June. This event will only be open to female veterans. Ms. McAllister noted that the VA has a new call-in number for female veterans.

The next meeting will be on May 23 at the NCIOM. Please visit <http://www.veteransfocus.org/> for a copy of the minutes and for information about the next meeting. The agenda and accompanying materials will be available for download prior to the meeting.