

And now...

OUR OUTREACH VEHICLE

Look out for our Mobile Vet Center [MVC] coming soon to your community!!



TREATMENT OF WAR ZONE STRESS INJURIES

- Individual & Couples Counseling
- Family Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Bereavement Counseling

Serving the following counties:
Ashtabula, Crawford, Erie,
Mercer, Venango and Warren

NEED TO SPEAK WITH SOMEONE NOW? CALL THE COMBAT CALL CENTER:

1-877-WAR-VETS

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
ERIE VET CENTER #222
240 West 11th Street, Suite 105
Erie, PA 16501
814.453.7955
Fax: 814.456.5464
www.vetcenter.va.gov

ERIE VET CENTER GROUP SESSIONS



"KEEPING THE PROMISE"



Vet Center Mission Statement. "We are the people in VA who welcome home war Veterans with honor by providing readjustment counseling in a caring manner. Vet Centers understand and appreciate Veterans' war experiences while assisting them and their family members toward a successful post-war adjustment in or near their community."

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
ERIE VET CENTER #222
240 West 11th Street, Suite 105
Erie, PA 16501

GROUP SESSION SCHEDULE

ASHTABULA COUNTY

War Zone Group – Kelly Riazzi, LCSW
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 2-4 PM & 5-7 PM
Ashtabula CBOC

CRAWFORD COUNTY

War Zone Group – Paul Oros, LSW
Every other Thursday, 12-2 PM [Tinsville]
Drake's Well Museum

WAR ZONE GROUP – PAUL OROS, LSW

Every other Thursday, 5-7 PM [Meadville]
Meadville CBOC

SIGNIFICANT OTHER GROUP, MEGAN KENNEDY, LCSW

Every other Thursday, 5-7 PM
Meadville CBOC

ERIE COUNTY

Music for Veterans – Jane Drumm, LCSW

Every Monday, 11-1 PM
Erie Vet Center

War Zone Group – Saundra Fulgham, LSW

Every other Monday, 4-5:30 PM
Erie Vet Center

Women's Vet Group – Jane Drumm, LCSW

Every 4th Wednesday, 1:30-3:30 PM
Erie Vet Center

GWOT [OEF/OIF] – Megan Kennedy, LCSW

Every other Wednesday, 11-1 PM
Erie Vet Center

War Zone Group – Jane Drumm, LCSW

Every other Thursday, 6-8 PM
Erie Vet Center

Significant Other Group – Megan Kennedy, LCSW

Every other Friday, 9-11 AM
Erie Vet Center

Project Healing Waters Group – Facilitator Varies

3rd Saturday, 12-3 PM
Erie Vet Center

MERCER COUNTY

War Zone Group – Jane Drumm, LCSW

Every other Tuesday, 12:30-3:00 PM
Careerlink, Sharon, PA

War Zone Group – Saundra Fulgham, LSW

Every other Tuesday, 10-12
Veterans Advisory Council Bldg

VENANGO COUNTY

War Zone Group – Paul Oros, LSW

1st Friday, 10-12
Venango CBOC

WARREN COUNTY

War Zone Group – Kelly Riazzi, LCSW

Every 3rd Friday, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM
Warren Visitor Center

MEET OUR COUNSELORS

• **SAUNDRA FULGHAM, LSW, Team Leader**
Saundra Fulgham served in the United States Army from 1998-2002 and was stationed in Fort Hood, TX. She graduated from Edinboro University in 1994 with a BA in psychology and 2007 with a MSW in Social Work. She has worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Readjustment Counseling Service since 2008.

• **JANE DRUMM, LCSW**
Jane Drumm received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Clarion State College in 1977. She earned a Master of Science in Social Administration at Case Western University in 1989. She has worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Readjustment Counseling Service since 2006.

• **KELLY RIAZZI, LSW**
Kelly Riazzi received a Baccalaureate of Science Degree from Grove City College in 1992. She earned a Master of Science in Social Administration at Case Western Reserve University in 1997. Kelly has been employed by Family Services, Corry Counseling, Stairways Behavioral Health and in private practice. Kelly has been with Readjustment Counseling Service since 2011.

• **PAUL OROS, LSW**
Paul Oros served in the United States Army from 2000-2005 and was stationed in South Korea and Ft. Sam Houston, TX. He graduated from Edinboro University in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science. He earned a Master of Social Work in 2013. He has worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital and Readjustment Counseling Services since 2014.

MEGAN KENNEDY, LCSW

Megan Kennedy completed both undergraduate and graduate studies in Social Work at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Following graduation in 2008, Megan worked at Family Services of NWPA, Rolling Fields Nursing Home, and worked for 5 years at the Erie VAMC. She has worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Readjustment Counseling Services since 2015.

WHAT GROUP SHOULD I JOIN? Below is a brief synopsis of the groups that are offered by our Vet Center. Please note that discussion may arise during group that is outside the intended focus. Vet Center personnel encourage the exchange of experiences and information between our Veterans.

- **WAR ZONE Group** – Focuses on support, education, readjustment and reducing symptoms
- **OEF/OIF Group** – Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom – Focuses on transition and readjustment issues impacting employment, finances, education and family
- **Women's Veteran Group** – Focuses on past and present Women Veterans' issues while advocating social interaction
- **Significant Others Group** – Building skills for relationship improvement
- **Music for Veterans** – Incorporates guitar instruction, percussion and drumming as an outlet for stress, anxiety and tension

Want to join? Want to talk to someone? Please call 814-453.7955 for assistance.

NEED TO SPEAK WITH SOMEONE NOW? CALL THE COMBAT CALL CENTER: 1-877-WAR-VETS

VET CENTER HISTORY

The Veterans' Outreach Center, a branch of the Department of Veterans Affairs, initially specialized in readjustment counseling for Veterans of combat hostilities in Vietnam and Vietnam Era Veterans (August 1964 - May 1975) with readjustment problems. It was authorized by Public Law 96-22 enacted on June 13, 1979.

This legislation was enacted after numerous studies had indicated that Vietnam Veterans were experiencing numerous socio-psychological difficulties unique to their situation. These studies further indicated that the Vietnam Veteran was extremely reticent to seek assistance through traditional Veterans' organizations and that a non-traditional approach would be more appropriate to reach this population.

Begun as "storefront", community-based counseling centers, Congress initially intended this program to operate for two years, but due to its' overwhelming success, the program was extended and continues to expand.

The Vet Center assists those Veterans who need to make a more adequate socio-psychological adjustment.

Vet Centers guide Veterans' re-entry into civilian life by providing assistance and counseling in utilizing their Veteran's benefits and existing VA medical facilities and by providing readjustment counseling in an attempt to facilitate a more positive adjustment to their current life-space and environment.

General mental and psychological assessment, mental health services (if appropriate), and readjustment counseling (individual, group, and conjoint) are available for any eligible Veteran.