

Peak Military Care Network

Community Updates



PMCN Updates

Winter 2015

In This Issue

[2014 Year in Review](#)

[Fort Carson Listening Session](#)

[NHDF/PMCN Relocation](#)

[Network of Care Library](#)

[PMCN Partner Agencies](#)

A Message from the Chair



CSM (ret) Terrance McWilliams

As Department of Defense budgets continue to decrease because of sequestration and other factors, a lot of people are leaving the military a lot earlier than anticipated. Early departures often take a toll on service men and women, who may not be ready for a new way of life.

Dear PMCN Stakeholder,

Happy 2015! We hope that your New Year is off to a great start. PMCN had a busy 2014, and that pace has continued into this year. We have initiated more trainings for PMCN partner agencies, helped illustrate the region's support for our military and veteran community at the recent Fort Carson Listening Session, relocated our office, shared the PMCN story with local, state and national stakeholders and we continued to connect service members, veterans and their families to critical resources. We are looking forward to a great year where we will continue to collaborate with our partner agencies and continue to develop programs to better serve our military and veteran community. We would like to wish you a successful and fulfilling 2015.

PMCN 2014 Year in Review

2014 was a very successful year for PMCN. We are proud to say that we have been able to connect our community's military service members, veterans and family members to the highest quality resources via our partner agencies, navigation and integrated services. Here are a few of our accomplishments:

The Peak Military Care Network supports the overall well-being of transitioning service members and their families - and the community - by helping eliminate a potential backlog of services. If a community is not prepared, an influx of vets and families could tie up access to the same services and be problematic. With PMCN, now they have a dedicated network for care.

Quick Links

[PMCN Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Network of Care](#)



Join Our Mailing List!

719-577-7417

Access to PMCN information and assistance is available via telephone Monday through Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm by calling 2-1-1 or 719-955-0742. Information on resources and services is also available 24/7 through our Network of Care website <http://pikespeak.co.networkofcare.org/veterans/index.aspx>

- PMCN network/partnerships grew to 25 Partner Agencies
- We conducted 11 trainings for Partner Agencies
- PMCN and our partners assisted more than 25,000 service members, veterans and their families across a full spectrum of needs
- The PMCN Call Center was launched in April 2014 in partnership with Pikes Peak United Way/2-1-1; call volume increased steadily since launch, with more than 500 calls received
- Partnerships with AspenPointe and Rocky Mountain Human Services were also implemented to provide navigation services to about 15-20% of Call Center callers (to-date)
- Our Network of Care website continued to see high traffic volumes
- We implemented evaluation tools to help ensure that PMCN is working toward, and meeting its goals
- We implemented our resource development plan to develop more diversified funding, which included participating in Colorado Gives Day (thanks to our new donors!)
- PMCN staff participated in the October Homeless Veteran's Stand Down, Destination Fort Carson, Military & Veteran Employment Expo and many other events to help connect our military and veteran community to critical resources
- We Secured 2015/2016 funding from The Anschutz Foundation, El Pomar Foundation and other funding partners



Kate Hatten presented at the Fort Carson Listening Session

On Tuesday February 3, 2015 more than 550 state, business, and community leaders came together to share the importance of the relationship Fort Carson has with Colorado to Army leadership. Under discussion was how a potential reduction of 16,000 soldiers at Fort Carson by 2020, due to sequestration, would impact the community and state. The panel included Brig. Gen. Roger Cloutier, Jr, Army Director of Force Management, Col. Karl Konzelman, Chief of the Army G-3/5/7 Force Management Division, Maj. Gen. Paul LaCamera, Commanding General of Fort Carson, and Col. Joel Hamilton, Garrison Commander of Fort Carson. Listening sessions have been scheduled for all 30 installations that will be affected by the \$95 million in budget cuts that the Army will be required to make if sequestration remains; these cuts will reduce the number of Active Duty Soldiers from 490,000 to 450,000 and potentially 420,000.

The panel heard from state leaders, including Governor John Hickenlooper and Maj. Gen H. Michael Edwards, Colorado's Adjutant General, mayors from Southern

Colorado, city council members, county commissioners and state legislators, as well as business, community and educational leaders regarding the vital impact Fort Carson provides to the community and state. The presenters emphasized that they support keeping Fort Carson at the current staffing levels not only because of the economic impact Fort Carson has on the state, but also because of Fort Carson's capabilities that enable Soldiers to train at state-of-the-art high altitude facilities, superior quality of life, quality higher education campuses, and numerous family and veteran support agencies. PMCN Executive Director, Kate Hatten, presented on the impact PMCN, through collaboration and coordination, and the region's network of military and veteran support agencies have on service members, veterans, and their families.

The Army listening sessions should be completed by late spring and announcements regarding the reduction of staff should be made this summer.



The National Homeland Defense Foundation home of Peak Military Care Network relocated to new office space at 1257 Lake Plaza Drive Suite 220. We welcome you to stop by to see our new office.

Network of Care Library

Our Network of Care has a wealth of information, in addition to hundreds of programs and services to assist our military and veteran community. The Network of Care library

(<http://pikespeak.co.networkofcare.org/veterans/library/index.aspx>) contains information on more than 4,000 health-related topics and more than 35,000 articles, including straightforward explanations and guidance on combat-related stress, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), depression and substance abuse. You'll also find helpful information about medical conditions, medications, tests and procedures, and everyday health and wellness issues.

For example, the library contains a searchable database of medications to provide individuals with information about what the medication is (including photos of what the medication looks like, based on dosage, manufacturer, etc.), how it should be taken, what other drugs will affect it, and how to get more information. This is a valuable, easy-to-access tool that can help individuals and caregivers understand more about medications.

Visit our [Network of Care](#) for more information.

PMCN Partner Agencies

The Peak Military Care Network has established formal partnerships with community agencies that support service members, veterans and their families. These partner agencies provide a range of programs and services, including education, employment assistance, behavioral and medical health, financial assistance and family supports, as well as reintegration support in our region. We work with each other and coordinate with military and VA services to better assist our military and veteran community. To-date, PMCN includes 25 partner agencies:

[Angels of America's Fallen](#)
[Amblicab](#)
[AspenPointe](#)
[CASA of the Pikes Peak Region](#)
[Cedar Springs Hospital](#)

[CPCD...giving children a headstart](#)

[Discover Goodwill](#)

[El Paso County Department of Human Services](#)

[Mt Carmel; Center of Excellence](#)

[Peak Vista Community Health Centers](#)

[Phoenix Multisport](#)

[Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments](#)

[Pikes Peak Community College](#)

[Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention](#)

[Pikes Peak Workforce Center](#)

[Pikes Peak United Way](#)

[Project Sanctuary](#)

[Rocky Mountain Human Services/Operation TBI Freedom](#)

[SET Family Medical Clinic](#)

[TESSA](#)

[The Home Front Cares](#)

[The Independence Center](#)

[The Resource Exchange](#)

[UCCS, Veteran and Military Student Affairs](#)

[Veterans Upward Bound](#)

For more information on PMCN, visit our [website](#) or LIKE us on [Facebook](#).