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COHEN VETERANS NETWORK AND DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING JOIN FORCES TO EDUCATE NEXT GENERATION OF PSYCHIATRIC - MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Federally-funded partnership will train and embed Duke graduate nursing students around the country in CVN's mental health clinics serving veterans and family members

STAMFORD, CT (July 17, 2019) – [Cohen Veterans Network](#) (CVN) continues to advance the field of veteran's mental health by entering into a groundbreaking partnership with the [Duke University School of Nursing](#) (DUSON). Together the organizations have received a federal Health Resources and Services Administration grant of \$2M over four years to fund the collaboration.

Initially, this partnership will provide opportunities for up to six Duke University School of Nursing Psychiatric - Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students to gain invaluable experience through intensive clinical placements at [Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinics](#) across the country. That number will grow to 10 students in each of the next three years. Duke nursing students are also eligible for up to \$20,000 in academic scholarships if selected for this program.

“There is a critical shortage of prescribing providers in mental health. In some areas, the access to qualified providers is so limited the focus is simply on availability. It is a secondary problem to think about the qualifications and training providers might have,” said Crystal Shelton, CVN senior vice president for Clinical Programs. “This collaboration is so significant because we will be able to immediately impact access to highly-trained providers and we share a mission with Duke to contribute to long-term workforce development for well-trained providers across the nation.”

As part of the grant, DUSON will provide state of the art training in evidence-based psychopharmacologic and psychotherapeutic treatment that can be delivered across both the lifespan and continuum of care. DUSONs signature foci on substance use disorder, telepsychiatry, vulnerable and underserved populations will well prepare them for their practicum experience at a Cohen Clinic. During the collaboration, the Cohen Clinics will continue their mission of increasing access to highly qualified providers, specifically targeting medically underserved regions across the country.

“This collaboration will enable our students to make a significant impact in the areas of the country where they are most needed,” said Sean Convoy, Duke assistant professor and the project director. “This project will allow us to work with CVN professionals to continuously monitor and evaluate these students as they progress in their education and help to expand first-class mental health care to underserved populations and to veterans and their families.”

Cohen Veterans Network also funds the [CVN Scholars Program](#), which provides stipends for graduate students pursuing professional careers in support of veteran’s mental health.

The Health Resources and Services Administration is an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services located in North Bethesda, Maryland. It is the primary federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated, or medically vulnerable.

ABOUT THE COHEN VETERANS NETWORK

The Cohen Veterans Network is a 501(c)(3) national not-for-profit philanthropic network of mental health clinics for post-9/11 veterans and their families. CVN focuses on improving mental health outcomes, with a goal to build a network of outpatient mental health clinics for veterans and their families in high-need communities, in which trained clinicians deliver holistic evidence-based care to treat mental health conditions. The network currently will soon have 14 locations serving veterans and their families across the country. Learn more about the [Cohen Veterans Network](#).

ABOUT THE DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

A diverse community of scholars and clinicians, Duke University School of Nursing is educating the next generation of transformational leaders in nursing. We advance nursing science in issues of global importance and foster the scholarly practice of nursing. For 2020, U.S. News & World Report ranked Duke the #2 graduate nursing school in the nation. Duke University School

of Nursing also ranks eighth in National Institutes of Health awards among U.S. schools of nursing. The School offers national ranked masters, PhD and doctor of nursing practice degrees, as well as an accelerated bachelor of science in nursing degree to students who have previously graduated from college.