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Cohen Veterans Network and National Council for Behavioral Health Commit to Training Hundreds of People to Respond to Those in a Mental Health Crisis

This Next Step After Last Year's America's Mental Health Study Will Also Fund Development of New Tools to Promote Access by Mental Health Advocates

Stamford, CT., October 10, 2019 – On World Mental Health Day, [Cohen Veterans Network](#) (CVN) and the [National Council for Behavioral Health](#) are extending their partnership to improve awareness of mental health resources and crisis intervention tactics by offering a wide-ranging training opportunity. As a follow up to the [2018 America's Mental Health Study](#), the two organizations will offer Mental Health First Aid training to hundreds of participants across the country.

One of the key findings in the study released a year ago was that Gen Z (31%) and Millennials (32%) are more likely than Gen X (20%) and Boomers (13%) to have “tried to seek out mental health services but found it too hard to figure out where to go for help.”

“The study indicated that younger generations need to be better educated about the resources available to them,” said Dr. Anthony Hassan, President & CEO of CVN. “Mental Health First Aid training provides information and resources you can offer to someone to provide emotional support and practical help.”

By the end of 2020, the National Council will host 20 one-day workshops focused on training up to 600 new “First Aiders” across the country to apply Mental Health First Aid skills. Many of the [Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinics](#) will host these sessions inside the clinic’s community room and will make training slots available to local veteran service organizations and other community partners.

“We know that anyone, anywhere, can make a difference and potentially save a life,” said Chuck Ingoglia, President and CEO of National Council for Behavioral Health. “Through this latest effort with CVN, Mental Health First Aid will reach new participants and provide them with the training they need to have challenging conversations and encourage those struggling with a mental health concern to seek professional help.”

To kick off the initiative, the National Council for Behavioral Health will begin with an immersive train-the-trainer session for CVN staff. The training consists of one three-day Adult Mental Health First Aid instructor certification session with an additional veterans-focused module webinar training. The three-day regional instructor training will include up to 16 participants. CVN will then have a group of new instructors across the country able to conduct eight-hour [Mental Health First Aid](#) courses in their communities.

CVN has also funded the National Council for Behavioral Health to develop advocacy tools to help local community behavioral health organizations communicate the America’s Mental Health data to key industry influencers as well as reinforcing key pillars to improve access such as parity, alternative models, and workforce development.

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About Cohen Veterans Network: Cohen Veterans Network is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit philanthropic organization 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. [Learn more about CVN.](#)

About National Council for Behavioral Health:

The National Council for Behavioral Health is the unifying voice of America’s health care organizations that deliver mental health and addictions treatment and services. Together with our 3,326 member organizations serving over 10 million adults, children and families living with mental illnesses and addictions, the National Council is committed to all Americans having access to comprehensive, high-quality care that affords every opportunity for recovery. The National Council introduced Mental Health First Aid USA and more than 2 million Americans have been trained. Learn more about [the National Council for Behavioral Health.](#)