

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Office of Adult Mental Health (<a href="http://dbhdd.georgia.gov/">http://dbhdd.georgia.gov/</a>) is pleased announce the upcoming **2016 Unspoken Wounds**Conference.



The 2016 Unspoken Wounds Conference is scheduled for March 13-15, 2016 in Savannah, Georgia. Due to the growing number of veterans returning to Georgia with PTSD and other trauma-related issues, including those who have become involved in the criminal justice system, "Winning the War Within" was chosen as the theme for this year's conference. Our goal is to bring together dynamic speakers and subject matter experts in the area of veteran and military family services to educate Georgia's workforce in the many evidence-based practices and innovative strategies for meeting the behavioral health, criminal justice, and reintegration needs of Georgia's veterans, service members, and their families.

In the first *Unspoken Wounds Conference* (2013), hundreds from the public and private sectors participated, including the fields of behavioral health, disability services, criminal justice, child welfare, education, law enforcement, public health, mental health advocacy agencies. The Georgia National Guard, Veterans Administration, Veterans Services, Veteran Service Organizations, faith-based and other military serving entities, and most importantly Georgia Veterans and their families were all well represented. Our main objectives are to expand service capacity, improve outcomes,

exchange information, share best practices, as well as highlight effective strategies and cross-cutting techniques throughout the state.

\*Select from a variety of Pre-Conference Institutes and Workshops/Plenary Sessions. Choose from a wide range of workshop topics dispersed across five thematic tracks, presented by top local and national subject-matter experts and distinguished guests. Continuing education credits will be offered.

\*This year's conference will feature a special "Celebration & Awards Ball".
Full Dress Uniform is encouraged for our veteran/active military attendees.



#### The goals of the conference are:

- To promote a comprehensive System of Care that addresses the treatment, case management, and reintegration needs of veterans and their families.
- To further develop a workforce within the state that has the skills and knowledge needed to provide trauma-informed care and to work collaboratively with local Veterans Courts or other accountability courts to divert veterans away from incarceration and toward the treatment options they need and deserve.
- To help stakeholders across the state understand the correlation between PTSD/trauma and criminal justice involvement and the need to develop programs and resource collaboratives to address this growing public health and safety issue.

#### Who should attend:

- Counselors, social workers, marriage & family therapists, addiction professionals, community mental health workers, peer specialists, students, physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers
- Behavioral healthcare organization executive leadership and administrators
- Judges & Accountability Court Personnel
- Law Enforcement
- Elected Officials & Policymakers
- Veterans Affairs Personnel & other government agencies
- Non-profits and universities that serve the needs of veterans and their families
- Mental Health Advocates
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Veterans, Active Duty Military, and their Families
- YOU!!!

**COME JOIN US** to hear dynamic speakers, network with colleagues from other Veteran and military family serving agencies, and learn about the many ways that the behavioral health, criminal justice, and reintegration needs of Georgia's veterans, service members, and their families are being addressed. Let's work together to help those who fought so fearlessly for our freedoms to become free from the war within.



#### **BOOK YOUR ROOM NOW TO GET THE SPECIAL DISCOUNTED CONFERENCE RATE!!**

Conference Venue and Lodging: Savannah Marriott Riverfront

100 General McIntosh Boulevard Savannah, GA 31401 (912) 233-7722





#### Book online by February 23, 2016 for the conference rate at:

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### **Vendor Opportunity**

Registering to be an exhibitor is a fabulous opportunity to demonstrate your support of Georgia's veterans, service members, and their families while gaining face-to-face exposure for your product/service to the various veterans affairs agencies, professional counselors, licensed social workers, substance abuse clinicians, behavioral health program administrators, judicial/court staff, law enforcement, policymakers, elected officials, institutions of higher learning, veterans, family members, and others who serve and advocate for the needs of veterans and their families. Exhibitor opportunities are available as outlined below.

Since exhibit space is limited, please reserve your booth as soon as possible. Contact Jill Mays (jill.mays@dbhdd.ga.gov) for additional information. When all exhibit space is allocated, a waitlist will be maintained should there be any cancellations.

# **Unspoken Wounds**

Winning the War Within

Coming
March 13-15, 2016
Savannah, GA

Contact Jill Mays at <a href="mays@dbhdd.ga.gov">jill.mays@dbhdd.ga.gov</a> for additional information.

**REGISTRATION WILL OPEN IN JANUARY 2016**