

Darcie Handt, Executive Director, ND Cares

# What is ND Cares

• ND Cares is a coalition of more than 45 military and civilian professionals dedicated to the care and support of North Dakota Service Members, Veterans, Families, and Survivors (SMVFS).

• ND Cares is not a provider of services; rather, it is dedicated to improving understanding of the needs and services required by our heroes who should be able to access them close to home.

# **ND Cares Mission**

Strengthening an accessible, seamless network of support for Service Members, Veterans, Families, and Survivors

# **ND Cares Goals**

- Conducting a comprehensive assessment of needs.
- Integrating existing programs and resources to strengthen an effective and efficient system.
- Developing a leader network to support collaborative efforts.

# **ND Cares Priority**

 The coalition's priority is behavior health, defined as a state of mental and emotional being and/or choices and actions that affect wellness.

• The Coalition's interest in behavior health services focuses on promotion of emotional health, prevention of mental disorders, prevention of substance use disorders, treatment and recovery support.

# **Program Components**

### Coalition

- Involve other ND coalitions
- Link issues/agencies to the proper resource for resolution
- Educate each other on services/resources
- Replace state ISFAC
- Community (31 communities)
  - Steering Committee
  - Network that may be integrated into regional ISFAC (Regional Networks) meetings
- Company (in development)
  - Steering Committee
  - Embedded into Community Steering Committee
  - Employer Mentorship Program (Employers, Job Service, Budget Consultant, SMVFS)
  - Sponsorship for events
  - Universities (to be developed)

### MOUT

- Four State FTEs
- Assigned region (by county) to support
- Link SMVFS to services/resources needed to address the issue presented.

# ND Cares Evolution Timeline 2011 thru 2016

09/2016 2nd person hired for ND Cares

ND Cares Coalition Strategic Planning Session **10/13/2015** 

ND Cares Executive Director authorized under Office of the Adjutant General (TAG) 09/2015



**10/06/2015** Medora becomes 1st ND Cares Community

ND contingent attends Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Policy Academy 05/2013



01/08/2015 Executive Order (EO) 2015-01 Signed by ND Governor

Obama signs Executive Order (EO) improving access to mental health services for Service Members, Veterans, their Families, and Survivors (SMVFS)

08/31/2012



<u>03/13/2013</u> National Guard Bureau (NGB) signs Joining Community Forces (JCF) agreement

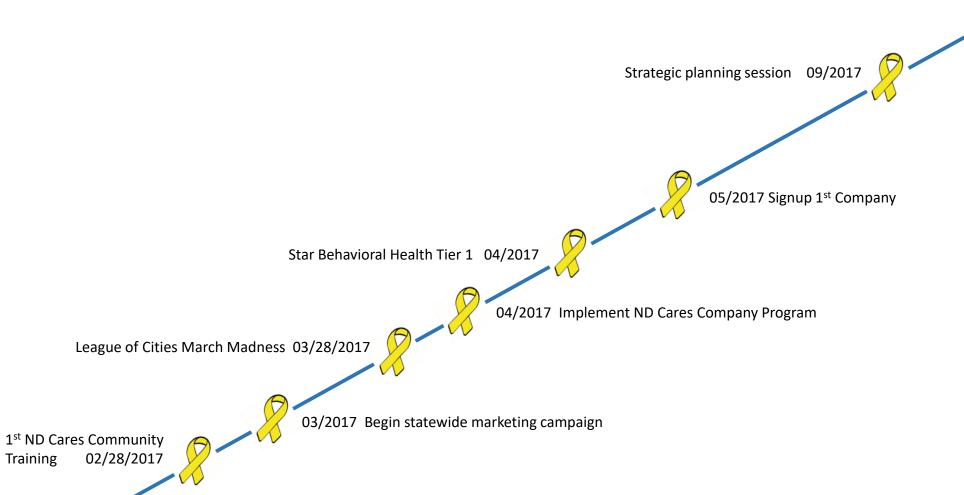


04/13/2011 Joining Forces announced by 1st Lady Obama and Dr. Jill Biden

### **ND Cares Next Steps** Timeline 2017 - 2018

01/04/2016 ND Cares website activation

Training







- **Employer Mentorship** Initiative
- Veteran Student Mentorship Program
- Strategic Plan Session
  - September 2017
- **ND Cares Summit** 
  - 2018

# **ND Cares Funding**

### 2017 thru 2019

- People
  - 1 ND Cares Employee \$140,000 ND Cares
  - 4 MOUT Employees \$540,000 Reintegration (\$133,000 less than previous biennium)
- Operating Costs (ND Cares)
  - \$150,000 (\$40K less than previous biennium)
    - Advertising (North Dakota Broadcasters Association)
    - Marketing
    - Print
    - Conferences/meetings
    - IT/Website

# Questions/Guidance?

# **Contact Information**

## Darcie Handt, Executive Director for ND Cares

Email: <u>Darcie.d.handt.nfg@mail.mil</u> or <u>NDCares@nd.gov</u>

Phone: (701) 333-2012

# Joe Faller, Military Outreach Specialist

Email: joseph.l.faller.nfg@mail.mil or NDCares@nd.gov

Phone: (701) 333-2015

Website: https:\\NDCares.org

# ND Cares