



**MAINE MILITARY & COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> 2016, 10:00am -12:00 pm**  
**The Adjutant General's Conference Room,**  
**Camp Keyes 194 Winthrop Street, Augusta, ME 04333**

**Executive Summary-** Amy Line discussed the overwhelming success of the 2016 MMCN Conference that took place on July 21 at the Augusta Civic Center

**The Adjutant General Doug Farnham** – The Adjutant General, Gave a warm welcome from the Wing, thanked all who came to meeting and admired the hard work put into the most recent events, to include the MMCN 2016 Conference. Announced that Chaplain Gibson will no longer be running the MMCN council, but will still be very much involved. Welcomed Mr. Daniel Goodheart, and complimented him for being a hard working state employee.

**Chaplain (COL) Gibson-** Noted that he will no longer be running or be perceived as running the meeting. However, as a Federal Employee he wears several hats, one of which allows him to reach out to the community. SPC Kristin York will continue to work with the meeting minutes, legally. Announced that it is perfectly acceptable to have persons fill in when members are absent to have information relayed. One of the tasks that will be worked on between now and December will be to have board slots filled. Recent changes to the Family Program include, MSG Barbara Claudel retiring. MAJ Donald Lachapelle has taken over as new SFPD. SSG Angela Parady is the new Family Program NCOIC. Recently did a Military 101 event for Hancock County. On October 22, there will be a homeless Veterans stand down. If you would like to volunteer please reach out to *Lorna Hatch*.

**2016 Conference Recap: Amy Line-** Gave a huge “We did it!” in regards to the 2016 MMCN Conference. Each year the committee members confirm that it was better than the last year, and wonder how they will top it in years to come. Huge thank you to Jerry, Kyra, Nathaniel, and CH Gibson. Over three hundred attendees, which over sixty resource providers. There were three breakout sessions this year rather than the usual two. We were offered Civic center again for next year, with same offer. We have not made plans yet, but it is centrally located and they set up food and knew how to take care of the event. It was easily accessible. Ad care has really helped us with registration, fine-tuned the resource table. Willing to do that again, did it free of cost.

**Revamped Website: Kyra Darling-** Announced that the new website will hopefully be up and running within the next few weeks. New website has more professional look and feel. Will make Service Members and Veterans lives easier. Home page is an overview of our services, and live updates from our Facebook page.

**Maine Hire a Vet Campaign: Auta Main-** Announced that when they sent the first ad out to employers, within 72 hours they had 82 slots filled. It was unbelievable, standing on the stage, looking out to the full armory. There was 400 plus job seekers who came through the door. Please refer to Steve Roy if you have veterans who need employment, or employers who want to volunteer for hire a Vet. Steve is primary contact. Last year's goal was 100 vet hired in 100 days, they got 262.

**Marci Clark-** Announced that member flyers can be sent out to the Maine Council of Churches, so please email these flyers to Marci Clark: [MwClark01@comcast.net](mailto:MwClark01@comcast.net). All are invited to an event the Maine Council of Churches is holding, 20<sup>th</sup> October 0830 in Waterville, The Honorable George Mitchell "From Mud Swinging to Mutual Respect". The big push for many years is civil discourse, no faith for this event, go to Maine Council of Churches website to register.

**Jerry Dewitt; Catherine Ryder-** Working on Pit count for next year. Needs to partner with Maine Council of Churches, they want to ring all bells at all churches on the Veterans Day. Recognize suicide prevention day, work with Governor to make that day official.

**Carry Gosslin-** This is suicide prevention month, putting together fliers for different units around state. Lunch and learns are being set up.

**Laura Allen-** About to roll out new case management system. Newsletter function, if you have items or news, please get with Laura to be put out. Collect and report and analyze on veteran data, augmented through our case management system. The hope is in next year or so, they will have the most comprehensive veteran analysis. First database for veterans. Luncheon disabled veterans next week. Engage more Maine companies.

**Charlie Belisle-** Hired new psychiatrist who specializes in addiction. Five trained family doctors who specialize with suboxin. Maine will set a record this year for deaths related to chronic pain meds. Would like to see a better implemented way to screen if there patients are veterans, and if there is a better way they can help them

**Our next meeting will be taking place on December 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-12:00pm in the TAG Conference room.**



### 2016 MMCN Conference Recap

The Sixth Annual Conference of the Maine Military Community Network was held on July 21, 2016 at the Augusta Civic Center and an evening event followed at the Klahr Center on the campus of the University of Maine at Augusta. There were 303 conference attendees plus 70 attending the evening performance for a grand total of 373 attendees, 60 providers of services to the military community and 27 presenters.

Our Maine Congressional Delegation kicked the day off with greetings from Washington and warm support to the conference attendees to truly come together to meet the needs of Maine Service Members, Veterans and their families. Honorable Robert A. McDonald, Secretary of the Department of Veteran Affairs delivered the Opening Keynote. Four veterans shared their reflections about coming home, ten years later. Dr. Naomi Michele Simon, Chief Medical Officer, Home Base Program, Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts provided the clinical keynote address with particular focus on the topic of "Understanding PTSD and approaches to treatment: How can we assist impacted veterans and service members in the community". A third track featuring VETS Assistant Secretary Mike Michaud highlighted programs for veterans to find jobs, accelerated state licensing opportunities, and how to start their own business. Interactions between the Veteran and civilian provider communities highlighted the entire day.

The Maine's Farmer Veteran Coalition "Homegrown by Heroes" program catered the evening performance at the Klahr Center on the University of Maine at Augusta campus. Veteran artists displayed their work. UMA President James Conneely provided welcoming remarks. Comedian Michael Garvey, Iraq/Afghanistan veteran, Purple Heart recipient and his dog Liberty, wrapped up the day with laughter!



## MAINE MILITARY & COMMUNITY NETWORK

The Maine Military & Community Network Regional Groups serve as a local forum for Maine Service Members, Veterans and their Families along with local, State and Federal advocates; all coming together to identify unmet needs and develop local solutions.

Regional Group webpages can be found at <http://mainemcn.org/regional-groups/>

**1. Aroostook County MMCN-** Leaders: Jean Henderson and Patrick Blanchette. Group meets quarterly on Wednesdays from 1pm-2:30pm at the Houlton Higher Education Center located at 18 Military Street, Houlton, ME 04730. The next meeting is 27 July 16. For more information, call 207-521-3100 ext 3103 or by email at to [jean.henderson@maine.edu](mailto:jean.henderson@maine.edu)

**2. Washington County MMCN-** Co-Leaders: Amber Barrett and Michael Johnson. Group meets quarterly on the fourth Thursday from 1:30pm-3:00pm at the Machias Career Center, Prescott Drive Machias, ME 04854. Meeting dates for 2016: 28 JUL, 27 OCT, 26 JAN 2017 and 27 APR 2017. For more information, contact [abarrett@whcacap.org](mailto:abarrett@whcacap.org) at 207-610-5937 or [Michael.j.johnson@maine.gov](mailto:Michael.j.johnson@maine.gov).

**3. Hancock County MMCN-** Leader: Megan Burgess. This group meets monthly on the fourth Thursday from 10am-11:30am at the WHCA office located at 248 Bucksport Road, Ellsworth, ME 04605. Meeting dates for 2016 are 28 APR, 28 JUL, 27 OCT, 26 JAN 2017 and 27 APR 2017. For more information, contact Megan by email at [mburgess@whcacap.org](mailto:mburgess@whcacap.org) or by phone at 207-610-5912.

**4. Greater Bangor MMCN-**Co Leaders: Jim Pineau and Michael Johnson, Secretary is Pam Proulx-Curry. Group meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month from 4:30-6pm in Room 105, Eastport Hall of UMA Bangor Campus located at 128 Texas Avenue, Bangor, ME. For more information, contact Jim Pineau at [james.pineau@sba.gov](mailto:james.pineau@sba.gov) or 207-450-2290.

**5. Somerset County MMCN-** Leader: Dennis Dix. Group meets at 5 Commerce Street, Skowhegan, ME 04976. For more information, contact Dennis at 207-873-2136 x 3612 [ddix@kbhmaine.org](mailto:ddix@kbhmaine.org)

**6. Kennebec County MMCN-** Leader: Sheriff Ryan Reardon. Group generally meets the third Wednesday of each quarter in the Hill House Conference Room at 125 State Street, Augusta, ME. Meeting Schedule: 30 MAR 16, 15 JUN 16, 21 SEP 16, 14 DEC 16, from 1000 - 1200pm. For more information contact Jess Quinn at [jquinn@kennebecso.com](mailto:jquinn@kennebecso.com) or 207-623-2270 Ext. 1319.

**7. Lewiston & Auburn MMCN-** Leaders: Jerry DeWitt and Alley Smith. Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 1pm at Tri-County Mental Health located at 1155 Lisbon St Lewiston, ME 04240. Contact Jerry by email at [jdewitt@tcmhhs.org](mailto:jdewitt@tcmhhs.org) or by phone at 207-783-4663 x228 or 207-576-0376.

**8. Mid-Coast MMCN (Brunswick Area) -** Leader: Paul Loveless. The group bi-monthly on the third Tuesday from 5pm-7pm at 62 Pegasus St., Brunswick, ME. For more information contact Paul by email at [navrvaomevt@gmail.com](mailto:navrvaomevt@gmail.com) or by phone at 207-406-4103.

**9. Greater Portland MMCN-** Leaders: Cliff Trott, Travis Erickson and Rob Liscord. Group meets quarterly, next meeting is 11 JUL 16, 4:30-6pm at Alexander Hall, UNE, 716 Stevens Avenue, Portland, ME. For more information, contact Rob Liscord at [rliscord@ptla.org](mailto:rliscord@ptla.org) or by phone at (207) 400-3232.

**10. York County MMCN-** Leaders: Amy Marcotte/ Phil Allen. Group meets the fourth Monday of each month. Meetings are generally held the fourth Monday from 1pm-2:30pm at the Springvale Vet Center located at 628 Main St., Springvale, ME 04083. Contact [Amy.Marcotte@va.gov](mailto:Amy.Marcotte@va.gov) or phone (207) 490-1513.

To add your business on the MMCN website, follow link to [http://www.mainemcn.org/POC\\_Form.php](http://www.mainemcn.org/POC_Form.php)  
For more information contact [Andrew.I.gibson@mail.mil](mailto:Andrew.I.gibson@mail.mil) or call 207-430-5770.

Last updated on 21 July 2016, NEG



**Mental Health Summit  
September 23, 2016  
VA Maine Healthcare System  
Building 210, Theater  
1 VA Center**

- 8:30 am-9:00am      Registration and light refreshment
- 9:00 am-9:15am      Welcome : Dr. Mary Tibbetts, Dr. Greg Caron
- 9:15am-9:55am      Update on the new changes in the VA  
My Access/Community Care  
Katie-Lynn Nelson, Cory Wilson , Cory Vail
- 10:00am-10:45am      Suicide Prevention:  
VA: Tracy Charette Rn, Yvonne Laine Rn, Mona Park-Allen  
Greg Marley: NAMI Suicide Prevention Team
- 10:45am- 11:30am      PTSD: Dr. Greg Caron, Dr. Jerold Hambright  
Brandon Roberts Peer Support VA Maine  
Tom Demers: Peer Support Bangor Cboc  
Chief Ken Mason Lincoln County Sheriff  
COL. Andrew Gibson Chaplin of National Guard
- 11:30am-11:45am      Veteran Sharing
- 11:45am-12:00pm      Break
- 12:00am- 12:40 pm      Break-out groups:  
- Portland/ Lewiston area  
- Augusta area  
- Bangor area
- 12:40am- 1:00pm      General QA/Wrap-up/Evaluation

**Please bring handouts/ pamphlets of available resources to the MH Summit, thank you!**