



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
PO Box 345
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0345

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor
KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA LEVY
Acting Executive Director

RESOLUTION
Recognizing November 11, 2015 as Veterans Day

January 20, 2016

WHEREAS, Veterans Day, November 11, 2015, is a celebration honoring all America's veterans who have served in times of war, and in times of peace, acknowledging the 712,000 veterans, along with their families, living in New Jersey, recognizing military families have a culture and unique behavioral health needs that may not always be understood within the greater community; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Departments of Military and Veterans Affairs, through their network of regional Veterans Service Offices, provides the State's veterans and their dependents with information and guidance on benefits and other areas of concern to veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) significantly increases the risk for Substance Use Disorder (SUD), at least one out of three veterans seeking treatment for SUD also has PTSD, with the number of veterans who smoke nicotine cigarettes almost doubling for those with PTSD versus those without PTSD diagnoses; and

WHEREAS, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Army suicide rate reached an all-time high in 2012, mental health and substance use disorders caused more hospitalizations among U.S. troops in 2009 than any other cause, with data showing 70% of homeless veterans also experience a SUD; and

WHEREAS, more than 165,000 women are enlisted and active in the armed services, and when victimized by sexual harassment and assault, are five times more likely to overuse prescription drugs and 10 times more likely to use illegal substances; and

WHEREAS, cumulative lengths of deployments continue to be associated with more emotional difficulties, as well as mental health and substance use disorders, among military families; and

WHEREAS, there are proven methods to help veterans recover from alcohol or drug misuse and SUD, including mutual help groups, help lines, and effective treatment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes Veterans Day, November 11, 2015, in gratitude to our brave and dedicated military, veterans, and their families for their service to our nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to Governor Chris Christie, the New Jersey Legislature, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors and County Alliance Coordinators.

Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

20 Jan 2016
Date