



# Helping Veterans Become Physician Assistants Initiative: Anniversary Webinar

Wednesday, November 14, 2012



# Agenda

- Welcome
- Helping Veterans Become Physician Assistants Initiative Overview
- Select Federal Activity Summary
- Initiative Workgroup Update
- Professional Organizations Presentations
- Discussion



# Welcome

Marcia Brand, PhD

Deputy Administrator

U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services

Health Resources and Services Administration



# Helping Veterans Become Physician Assistants Initiative Overview

Shannon K Bolon, MD, MPH

Branch Chief

U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services

Health Resources and Services Administration

Bureau of Health Professions

Division of Medicine and Dentistry

Primary Care Medical Education Branch



# Helping Veterans Become Physician Assistants Initiative Overview

- President's Veterans Initiative announced 10/25/11
- Identify and disseminate best practices
  - Public webinar 11/16/11
  - Webpage  
<http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/veterans/physicianassistants.html>



# Helping Veterans Become Physician Assistants Initiative Overview

- Work Group
  - Public and private experts in veteran and physician assistant (PA) education
  - 2 committees investigating recruitment, retention, preparation, and training of service members and veterans to be civilian PAs
  - Additional support provided by the Physician Assistant Education Association



## Helping Veterans Become Physician Assistants Initiative Overview

- Applicants to the Physician Assistant Training in Primary Care grant program with targeted veteran recruitment, retention, and mentoring activities receive reserved points during the peer review process



# Helping Veterans Become Physician Assistants Initiative Overview

- Building Expertise
  - Literature reviews
  - Expert interviews
  - Federal and private partnerships
- Sharing Expertise
  - Presentations
    - HRSA Advisory Committees
    - Grantees
    - Stakeholders
  - Briefing Executive Branch administrators



# SELECT FEDERAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY



# Division of Nursing Veteran Activities

Janice Young, PhD, MPH, RN  
Nurse Consultant

U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services

Health Resources and Services Administration

Bureau of Health Professions

Division of Nursing



# U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

- Intermediate Care Technician (ICT) Program
  - 1 year pilot program
  - Creates a new emergency department role for past or soon to separate Medics, Med Techs, and Corpsmen
    - GS 6&7, full-time position
  - 15 Veterans Affairs Medical Centers funded in 2012
    - 40 applied



# U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

- To apply for the ICT pilot program, please contact a *VA for Vets* Career Coach at

1-855-824-8387



# Physician Assistant Training Grant Activities

Sherrilyn Crooks, PA-C  
Project Officer

U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services

Health Resources and Services Administration

Bureau of Health Professions

Division of Medicine and Dentistry

Primary Care Medical Education Branch



# Physician Assistant Training in Primary Care Program

- 27 continuing current grantees
  - 18 awarded in 2011
- 2012 competition
  - Review points for veteran activities
  - 21 applications reviewed



# Physician Assistant Training in Primary Care Program

- 13 new awards
  - \$2.5 million in first budget year
  - 2 newly established PA education programs
  - 11 report veteran activities (85%)
  - 11 states
  - 6 rural projects



# Expansion of Physician Assistant Training Program

- 28 current grants
  - Awarded 2010
- Purpose to increase the number of physician assistants students trained and entering the workforce from 2010 to 2015
- Project more than 700 additional students will be trained by 2015



# HELPING VETERANS BECOME PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS INITIATIVE WORKGROUP



# PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PRESENTATIONS



# American Academy of Physician Assistants: Veteran Activities

Sandy Harding, MSW

Senior Director of Federal Advocacy

American Academy of Physician Assistants



# Physician Assistant Education Association

**Anthony A. Miller, M.Ed., PA-C**  
Senior Director, Education  
Policy & Strategy

**Kendall Williams**  
Coordinator,  
Government Relations



# DISCUSSION



# Contact Information

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