



Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

Secondary PTSD

The AVVA Secondary PTSD program has been in the planning for quite a while.

You may wonder why it has taken so long for us to offer this valued program to our members.

After many months, possibly close to two (2) years of research, meetings, emails and deep thought – we knew that this was not a program to be handled lightly. We felt in our hearts that what we had to offer as “peer support” needed to be as useful, helpful or relevant to the subject.

The signs, symptoms, and effects of Secondary PTSD are just as varied as the ones exhibited by Veterans with PTSD. It is very hard to explain, unless you've lived it.

While we will never be able to fully understand what our loved one is going through with PTSD, we know that having PTSD can be an extremely scary and a difficult time in an individual's life and their family's lives.

The explanation as to the time length is very important as you can see. Those involved in the planning of this subject matter want to “do right” by our members and ourselves.

AVVA will hold our first official Secondary PTSD session during the National Leadership and Education Conference to be held in Tucson AZ. - July 19 - 23, 2016.

During the July Conference AVVA and VVA, jointly, will offer a Secondary PTSD seminar for everyone attending.

We are fortunate to have the support of Dr. Tom Berger, Executive Director of Veterans Health Council at Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. and VVA PTSD and Substance Committee Chair, Dr. Tom Hall.

There is probably not but a few days that go by that one of us or all are working on this much needed program.

Co Chairs

Elayne Mackey

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