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Cohen Clinic at Metrocare Now Treating Active Duty Service Members With Individual Therapy

North Texas Veterans Clinic Answers Call to Fill Significant Gap in Mental Health Care for Those Currently Serving

Addison, TX, April 13, 2021 – Today, the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Metrocare, a not-for-profit philanthropic mental health care clinic that serves post-9/11 veterans and military families throughout North Texas, announced that it is now providing individual treatment to active duty service members. The expansion of services enables the Cohen Clinic to treat the entire military family at any point along their care continuum.

This announcement comes as the clinic nears a major milestone – the 5-year anniversary of its launch in June 2016. The Cohen Clinic at Metrocare is one of the original clinics of Cohen Veterans Network (CVN), a nationwide system of mental health clinics for veterans, military families – and now active duty service members.

Active duty personnel may now seek mental health treatment from the Cohen Clinic in Addison, as well as a majority of the <u>19 Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinics</u> across the country with a TRICARE referral.

Prior to the inclusion of individual care, active duty service men and women were eligible for couples and group therapy at all 19 Cohen Clinics.

"By including the individual active duty service members, we can begin to address problems closer to their onset instead of waiting until after service discharge," Clinic Director Dr. Amy M. Williams says. "Providing timely and effective mental health care strengthens our military and, ultimately, our veteran population."

In 2020, the National Defense Authorization Act instructed the Secretaries of Defense to send individuals out to community care if the DoD was unable to provide care for mental health or behavioral health care for active duty service members within 15 days.

Extending care to individual service members builds on the Cohen Clinic's existing partnerships with DoD, the VA, and veteran service organizations (VSOs) throughout North Texas.



In fact, partnerships are at the heart of the Cohen Clinic model.

Metrocare CEO Dr. John W. Burruss explains, "Caring for these service members reflects our commitment to stacking hands with the North Texas veteran and military community. Cohen Veterans Network's mission is to fill the gaps in mental health care."

He continues, "We are honored to have partnered with CVN through the Cohen Clinic at Metrocare the past five years, and we look forward to meeting the mental health care needs of even more service members and their families through this new initiative."

The Cohen Clinic at Metrocare has been delivering care exclusively online via CVN Telehealth, face-to-face video therapy, during the COVID-19 pandemic. This expertise in virtual therapy will be key in reaching service members at various military installations across the metroplex. As inperson services resume, the clinic will continue offering Telehealth to make care easily accessible to active duty clients and others.

Military culturally competent care is available for a variety of mental health challenges including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, adjustment issues, anger, grief and loss, family issues, transition challenges, relationship problems, and children's behavioral problems.

For more information about the referral process and confidentiality of active duty care, see today's <u>Cohen Veterans Network news release</u>.

ABOUT THE COHEN CLINIC AT METROCARE

The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Metrocare provides evidence-based mental health care to post-9/11 veterans, active duty service members, and military families, including the National Guard and Reserves. Established in 2016, Cohen Veterans Network, a national nonprofit network of mental health clinics for military families, partnered locally with Metrocare, the largest provider of behavioral health services in Dallas County, to ensure that every veteran and family member has access to high-quality mental health care that enables them to lead fulfilling and productive lives. Together, they have served over 2,000 veterans and family members in the North Texas area since opening.

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