

Happy Friday REDC Members,

Below is your weekly policy update:

- SERVE Act:
 - **NDAAs Inclusion:**
 - NDAA Submissions have been continuing steadily- thank you to all of the Centers that are in HASC/SASC Committee Members Districts/States and submitting the forms! Keep up the good work!
 - As a reminder, we encourage all Centers to participate in a SERVE Act co-sponsorship and NDAA calls. The link can be found here:
 - **Your Staff will only need to click on the below link, put in their address, and it will take them directly to a script and call number:** Here is the link: <https://p2a.co/gx6LQmL>
 - **Other Relevant TRICARE Policy:**
 - For both current TRICARE authorized Centers and future, this week the DOD released a report on their plans to change military treatment center facilities (Section 703 from the NDAA report). As a reminder, the DOD is taking active efforts to **decrease the amount of installation military treatment center facilities and move to more TRICARE-contracted civilian providers**. This report lays out their analysis and plan. [See attached from the DOD]
 - Key Highlights:
 - They are seeing an increase in demand in military treatment facilities (MTF) off base and the transition to local networks- but expect there to be a huddle. Particularly noting an issue with network adequacy in some areas.
 - In their report conclusions, they highlighted the following that I believe are relevant to the REDC:
 - For patient access, they believe there are concerns regarding civilian provider willingness to accept TRICARE, requiring greater coordination. In the report, they argue that this is due to the reimbursement rates (which are set at those for Medicare).
 - For system enablers and MTF Capabilities, they note issues with market availability of mental health care (inpatient and outpatient). Their response will be to expand virtual health and retraining some direct care mental health capabilities. **Note, I perceive a lot of issues with this, particularly that the idea of virtually providing inpatient care (i.e. inpatient/RTC) is not apples to apples with outpatient.**
 - **Question for all: Have your centers ever virtually provided RTC or inpatient care?**
 - The TRICARE for Kids Coalition has a meeting with Committee on this, as they have a lot of concerns as do I- and we'll be meeting on March 3rd. If there are any other concerns, please do let me know and I will share.
 - **April 2nd Congressional Briefing:**
 - We have confirmed a date and the majority of our speakers!
 - The date will be **Thursday, April 2nd from 4-5PM EST** in the Cannon House Office Building.

- EDC has agreed to help partner on this briefing, so it will be livestreamed via their Facebook page! Mark your calendars to watch.
 - Speakers Include:
 - Personal Story from Military Family: Mother/Daughter who struggled to receive RTC
 - Personal Story from Active Duty Army Servicemember who has struggled to receive treatment and now has to be medically discharged due to the lack of access to Tricare authorized providers
 - Treatment provider discussion of servicemembers and their family (Center for Discovery)
 - *Pending Confirmation from her University*: Researcher specializing in eating disorders/disordered eating in military families at the Uniformed Services University
- **May 13th Capitol Hill Advocacy Day:**
 - As a reminder, REDC will be joining the EDC to advocate for the SERVE Act and Nutrition CARE Act at the May 13th Capitol Hill Advocacy Day.
 - Registration is now up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eating-disorders-coalition-capitol-hill-spring-2020-advocacy-day-tickets-95243725547>
 - **Registration closes April 8th, so sign-up today!** And if you are interested in being a team leader for an advocacy team, please email Luke on our team!: Luke Kopetsky luke.kopetsky@centerroadsolutions.com
- Timely Billing Provisions:
 - Congressional Committee Leadership has finalized language for Timely Billing, and reached out for REDC's thoughts. The board is considering.

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