



The Veteran Metrics Initiative (TVMI)

Learning What Works for Veterans and their Families

Cynthia L. Gilman, JD
Vice President
Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of
Military Medicine, Inc.
Center for Public-Private Partnerships
(240) 694-2131
cgilman@hjff.org



Organization Overview

Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc. (HJF)

A global organization dedicated to advancing military medical research. HJF serves military, medical, academic, and government clients by administering, managing, and supporting preeminent scientific programs that benefit members of the armed forces and civilians alike.

Center for Public-Private Partnerships (CP3)

A center of HJF that creates and sustains public-private research partnerships to advance the long-term health and well-being of service members, veterans, and their families.



GENESIS

- Initiative conceptualized approximately 4 years ago
- CP3 assisted communities committed to helping newly transitioned veterans reintegrate home
- CP3 discovered that communities didn't know:
 - Where to focus efforts/resources
 - How to assess if efforts/resources were helping

Challenges Identified By Multiple Focus Groups of Subject Matter Experts

- DoD, VA, and other federal, state, and local organizations provide numerous transition support programs across multiple well-being domains
- More than 45,000+ community based organizations and 10,000+ websites try to help veterans and their families successfully transition and reintegrate
- Veteran Transition Continuum* interventions are currently based on conjecture and anecdotes, not evidence based data
- No standard exists on WHAT and HOW to measure correlations among interventions and outcomes

**Transition Continuum* is defined as the period just prior to separation from military service and three years thereafter, including transition, separation, and community reintegration.

Need: To Develop Standardized Outcome Metrics

- Outcome metrics—not programmatic—must measure long term health, well-being, and quality-of-life benefits of DoD, VA, and civilian provided interventions
- Metrics development must be data driven
- DoD, VA, and civilians must collaborate in metrics development to enhance consistent terminology and universal adoption



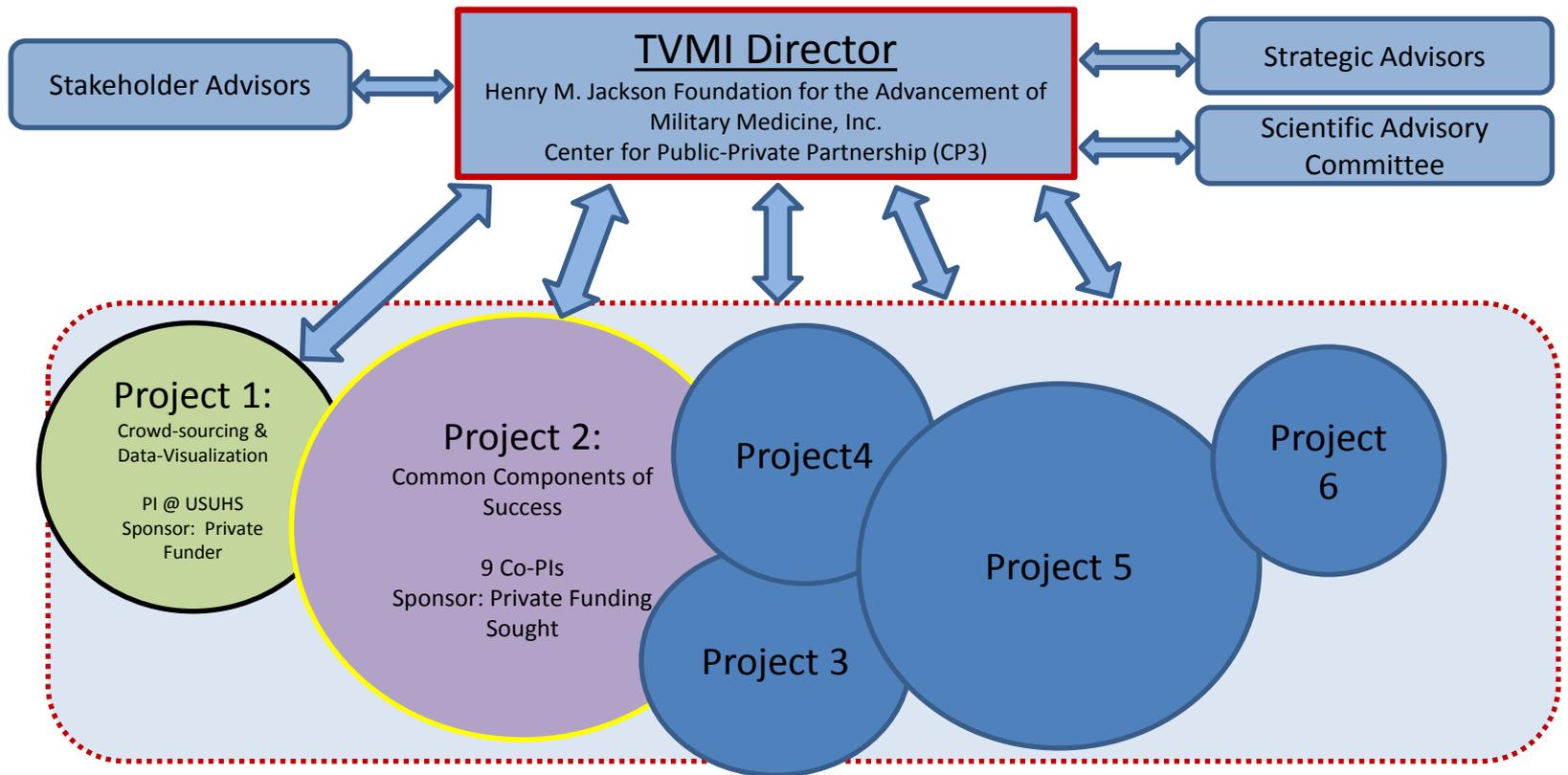
TVMI Goal

Develop evidence based metric tools to guide the use of effective interventions along the separation, transition, and community reintegration continuum of service members, veterans, and their families.

Approach: Leverage Expertise Across Systems to Drive Practical Knowledge

- Build and sustain teams of strategic, scientific, and stakeholder advisors across DoD, VA, philanthropic, industry, veteran/military service organizations, and veteran and family advocates to achieve the TVMI Goal
- Work in collaboration with DoD, VA, and civilian subject matter experts to strategically design and implement research projects with translation potential
- Adhere to scientific and theoretical approaches and methodologies from multiple disciplinary fields to find evidence based solutions

TVMI Management Model





Research Project 1: Crowd-sourcing & Data-visualization

Research Goal: Use crowd-sourcing and data-visualization techniques to qualitatively analyze the needs of transitioning military veterans based on publicly available social media data

Desired Outcome: Qualitative research to help inform future TVMI projects

Status:

- 100% privately sponsored
- Collaborative research with the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
- Period of performance ends in Feb 2014



Research Project 2: Common Component of Success

Goal: To identify the common components across interventions utilized by veterans throughout the Transition Continuum that are associated with favorable health, well-being, and quality-of-life outcomes

Desired Outcome: A “menu” of common program components across multiple domains shown by evidence to be associated with successful veteran outcomes for use by funders, program developers, and veterans (Note: TVMI will *not* “grade” individual programs)

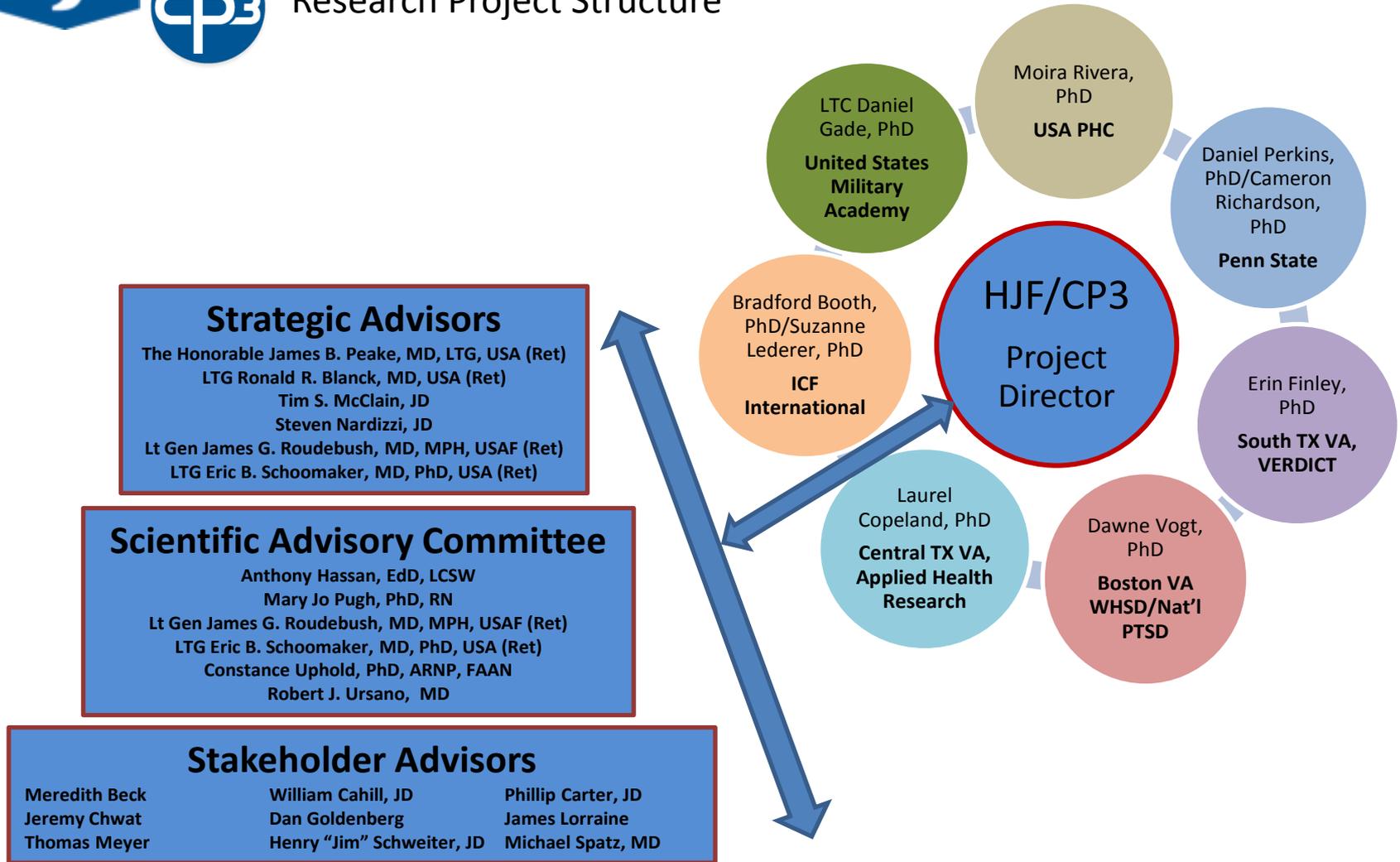
Status:

- Private sponsors being sought
- Collaborative research with nine Co-PIs at seven organizations



Common Components of Success

Research Project Structure



Advisors as of 16Jan2014



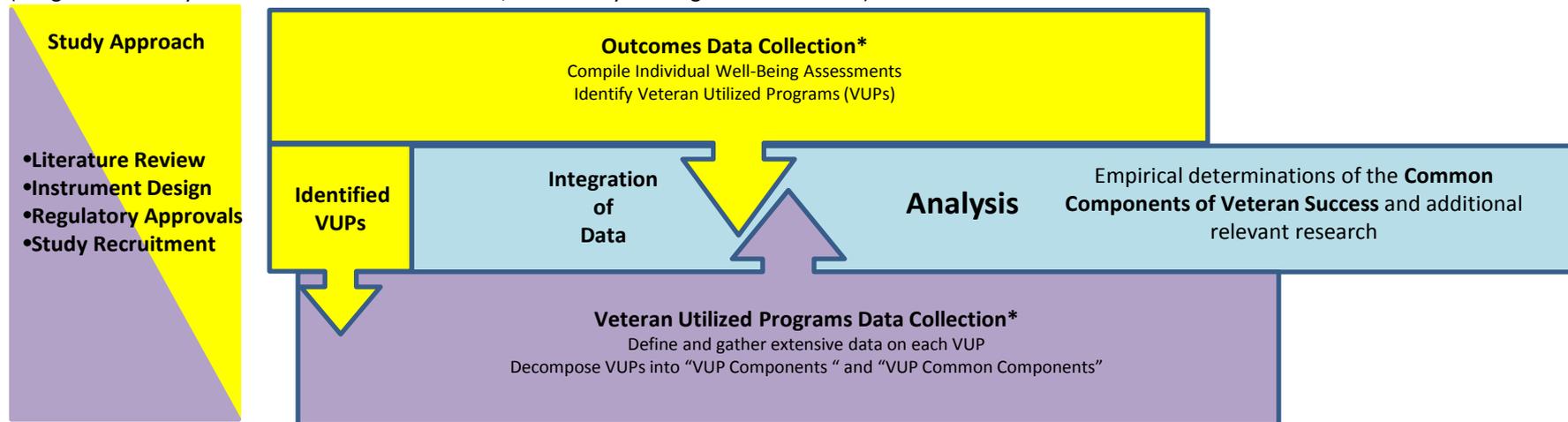
Common Components of Success Research Questions

- 1) How well are veterans reintegrating across domains? (*e.g.* physical health, mental health, social, economic, educational)
- 2) Are there subgroup differences in reintegration outcomes? (*e.g.* National Guard and Reserve; women; wounded, ill and injured)
- 3) How do reintegration outcomes vary over time?
- 4) What types of programs are veterans using over time? (*e.g.* sports programs, mental health programs, financial readiness programs, support services)
- 5) What program components predict reintegration outcomes?
- 6) What individual characteristics influence the impact of program components on reintegration outcomes?



Outcomes Substudy

(Longitudinal Study of Individual Veteran Transition/Community Reintegration Outcomes)



Programs Substudy

(Study of Veteran Utilized Programs and identification of VUP Components and Common Components)

Outcomes Study Participants

N= Approximately 7,500
Representative Population of all DoD Service Components to include Guard & Reserve

Programs Study Participants

N= Unique Veteran Utilized Programs identified by the Outcomes Study Participants

Research Team

9 Co-Principal Investigators

“Continuum”

Transition & Community Reintegration Continuum, as used in this Research Project and illustration, defined as the period just prior to separation from military service (Active, Guard, Reserve) and approximately three years thereafter

*Well-being and VUP data iteratively assessed at 6 month intervals



Uniqueness

- **Broad Study Participation**

Study includes all military branches (plus Guard and Reserve) representing multiple sub-groups (first-terminer/retiree; male/female; wounded, ill & injured/no determined medical status; urban/rural; deployed/non-deployed, officer/enlisted, etc.)

- **Rich Data**

Data collected will provide insights into if veterans are using Transition Continuum assistance programs; which veteran demographics are using what types of programs; and how program components correlate with veteran health and well-being outcomes

- **Groundbreaking Research**

Actionable data driven research findings will help develop effective interventions to promote more positive outcomes

- **Highly Collaborative & Interdisciplinary**

Collaborations being built among interdisciplinary researchers from DoD, VA, academic institutions, and industry

- **Rapid & Broad Dissemination**

Intermediate findings will be communicated regularly, and data will be made broadly available for complementary studies

“The Task Force shall assess the effectiveness of the policies and programs developed and implemented by the DoD, and by each of the Military Departments, to assist and support the care, management, and transition of recovering wounded, ill, and injured members of the Armed Forces; and make recommendations for the continuous improvements of such policies and programs.”

RWTF

Population: Recovering Warriors

Purpose: Assess effectiveness of DoD programs/policies

Focus: Care, management, and transition of Recovering Warriors

Goal: Make recommendations for improvements of policies and programs

“TVMI Goal: Improve the long-term health, well-being, and health related quality-of-life of veterans and their families by developing metric tools to guide the use of effective interventions along the continuum of transition, separation, and community reintegration.”

TVMI

Population: All transitioning service members (including Recovering Warriors)

Purpose: Measure evidence-based effectiveness of interventions on veteran outcomes

Focus: Spectrum of Transition Continuum well-being interventions across multiple domains

Goal: Develop metrics tools to help guide use of DoD, VA, and civilian interventions that drive positive veteran health and well-being outcomes

Common Components of Success

Cost Estimate*

*Draft Cost Estimate as of 19Dec2013

Research Project Summary	Cost Estimate				
	Hours	Labor	Cost/labor hour	Other	Total
Year 1	9072	\$761,021	\$83.88	\$347,374	\$1,108,395
Year 2	17,197	\$1,159,681	\$67.44	\$1,096,304	\$2,255,985
Year 3	14,479	\$971,163	\$67.07	\$1,065,898	\$2,037,061
Year 4	13,382	\$946,597	\$70.74	\$936,539	\$1,883,136
Year 5	7,019	\$595,761	\$84.88	\$392,254	\$988,015
Total Cost Estimate	61,149	\$4,434,222	\$74.93	\$3,797,950	\$8,272,592

Cost Estimate Year/Total

Cost Estimate Projected Expense/Project Function over 5 years

