

MILITARY AND VETERAN

EST.  2013

BOULDER CREST

Healing Heroes. One Family at a Time.



WELLNESS RETREAT

a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization



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Introduction

- Mission – to provide a first-class rural retreat for our nation’s wounded warriors and their families to rest and recover together
- Location – Bluemont, Virginia
- Population we serve – those affected by combat stress (active-duty personnel, veterans, couples, families, caregivers, MSTs)
- Number of returning warriors served – 250-500 families per year
- Services provided – free first-class accommodations; access to alternative and recreational therapies
- Background on how Boulder Crest Retreat came to be















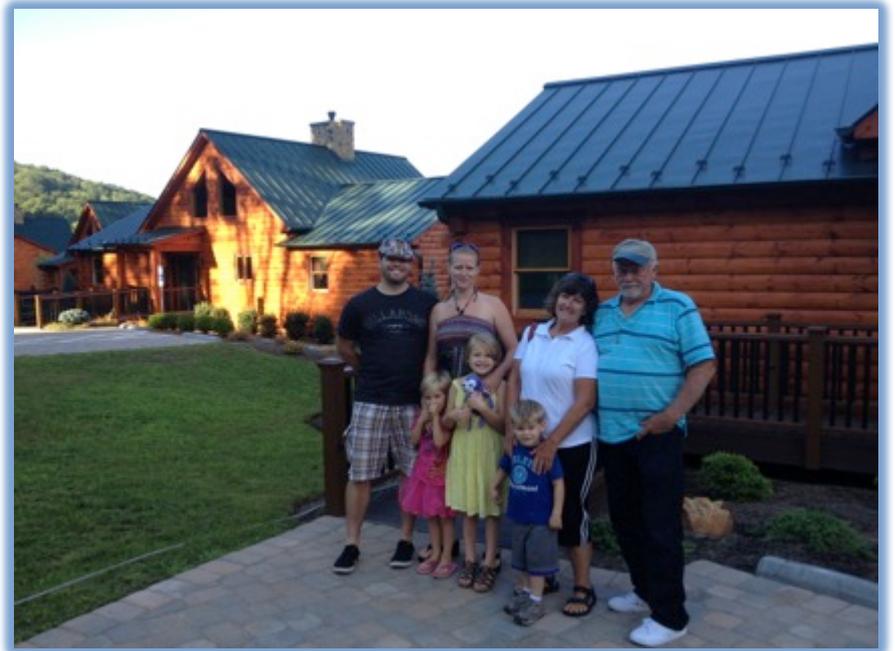














Long-term Services Needed

- Data indicate approximately ½ of veteran population does not seek care through the VA
- Gap between services available and services needed
- BCR offers:
 - Restful, relaxing, healing environment for warriors
 - Access to evidence-based non-pharmaceutical approaches:
 - Yoga, meditation, acupuncture, acupressure
 - K9 and equine therapy, falconry
 - Horticultural therapy
 - Music and art therapy
 - Archery, kayaking, hiking, fishing
 - Cooking therapy and nutrition classes
 - Financial literacy and related classes



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How Prepared Are DoD and VA?

- Future PTSD, post war is coming
- BCR serves not only severely injured warriors...but severely injured are a large segment of those we serve
- Our role in filling or bridging the gap:
 - Opportunity to perfect a nontraditional solution...
 - Leverage an existing infrastructure...
 - Deliver programs to those who don't go to the VA...
 - Create a revolutionary public-private partnership



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What Interferes with Transition?

- Not much interferes with warriors' to access BCR
 - Streamlined reservation and screening process
 - Limited documentation required
 - No cost to the individual warrior/family
- Lack of awareness could be considered an obstacle



How can DoD Improve Transition?

- Build awareness about available resources:
 - VSO expo/fair At local transition seminars
 - Create a catalog of organizations/resources in the veteran space (like the Veterans Job Network)
 - The National Resource Directory appears to be a good tool in this vein...
 - But is it utilized?
 - How is it publicized?
 - Is every organization included in it?



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Will Your Activities Change Post-war?

- We believe the need for our services will remain and even grow in scope
- We don't think our activities will change post-war
- We expect to continue our mission...but we will get smarter and better at what we do
- We hope to serve as a model for similar facilities around the country

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