



DEFENSE CENTERS  
OF EXCELLENCE  
For Psychological Health  
& Traumatic Brain Injury

# **Defense Centers of Excellence (DCoE) for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury: Overview**

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**May 2009**



# Overall Context



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- Feb 2007: Walter Reed story broke in the *Washington Post*
- At the same time, multiple reports provided high-level attention to the needs of returning service members
  - Task Force on Returning GWOT Heroes
  - DoD Mental Health Task Force
  - Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors
  - DoD IG Review of DoD/DVA Interagency Care Transition
  - Independent Review Group (IRG)
  - Veterans Disability Benefits Commission



# Overall Context



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- May 2007: Wounded, Ill, and Injured Senior Oversight Committee was formed
  - Consisting of 8 Lines of Action (LOAs) focused on issues such as:
    - Disability System
    - TBI/Psychological Health
    - Case Management
    - DoD/DVA Data Sharing
    - Facilities
    - Personnel, Pay and Financial Support



# DCoE



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- One of the outcomes of the SOC was the creation of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and TBI
- SEP 2007: Director appointed - BG Loree Sutton
- 30 NOV 2007: Center established
- JUN 2008: Acting Deputy Director (VA) named
- JUL 2008: All key leaders onboard and all Directorates stand up
- AUG 2008: Split operations began with staff co-located in both Rosslyn and Silver Spring
- JAN 2009: VA Deputy confirmed
  - Hiring 2 additional VA liaisons



# DCoE Mission



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**DCoE facilitates and implements prevention, resilience, identification, treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration programs for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury to ensure the Department of Defense meets the needs of the nation's military communities, warriors, and families.**



# DCoE Headquarters



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- Leadership
- 8 Directorates
  - Clearinghouse, Advocacy and Outreach
  - Research, QA, Program Evaluation, and Surveillance
  - Resilience and Prevention
  - Standards of Care – Psychological Health
  - Standards of Care – Traumatic Brain Injury
  - Strategy, Plans, and Programs
  - Telehealth and Technology
  - Training and Education



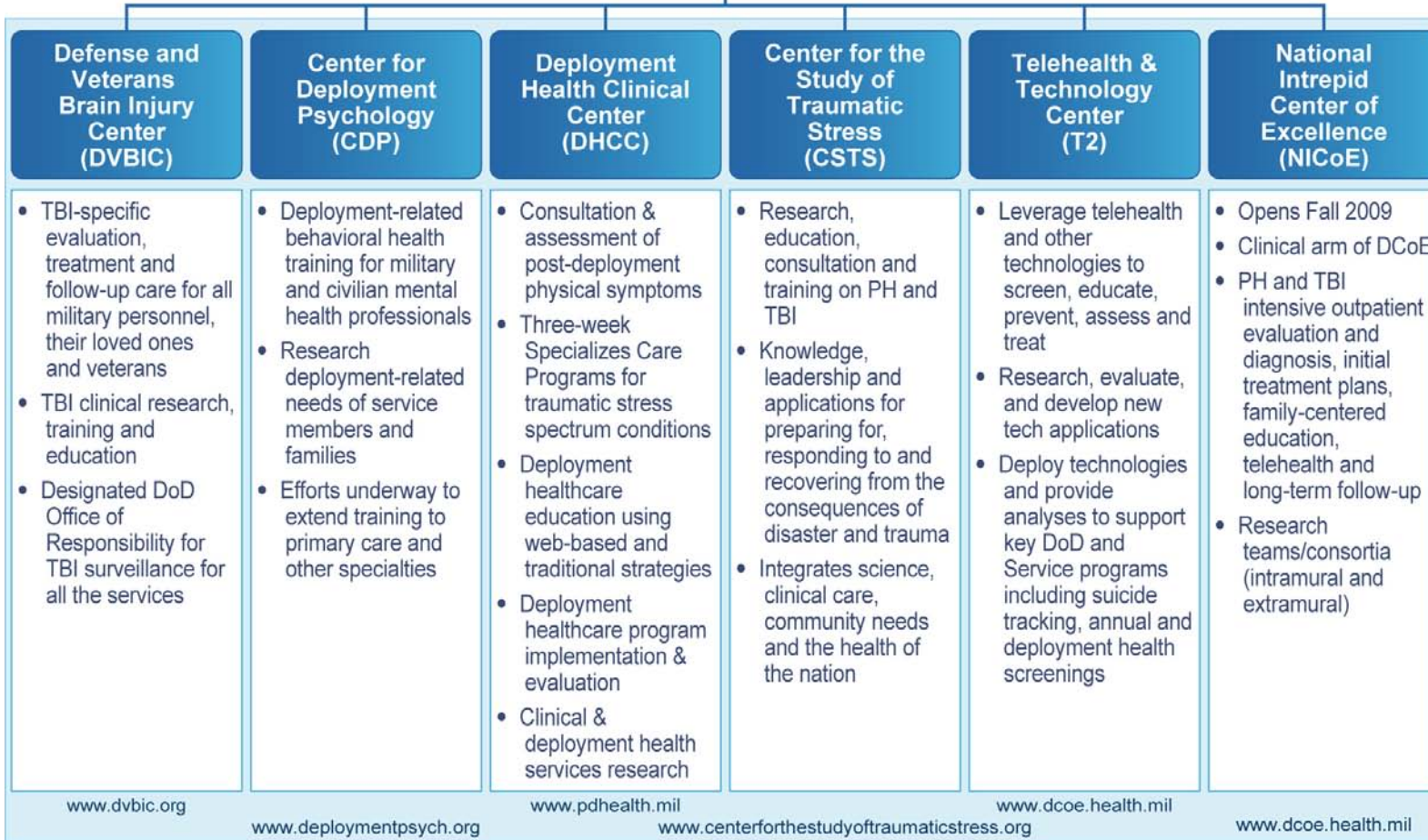
# “Center of Centers”



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logical Health  
ic Brain Injury

**DCoE  
Headquarters**  
[www.dcoe.health.mil](http://www.dcoe.health.mil)



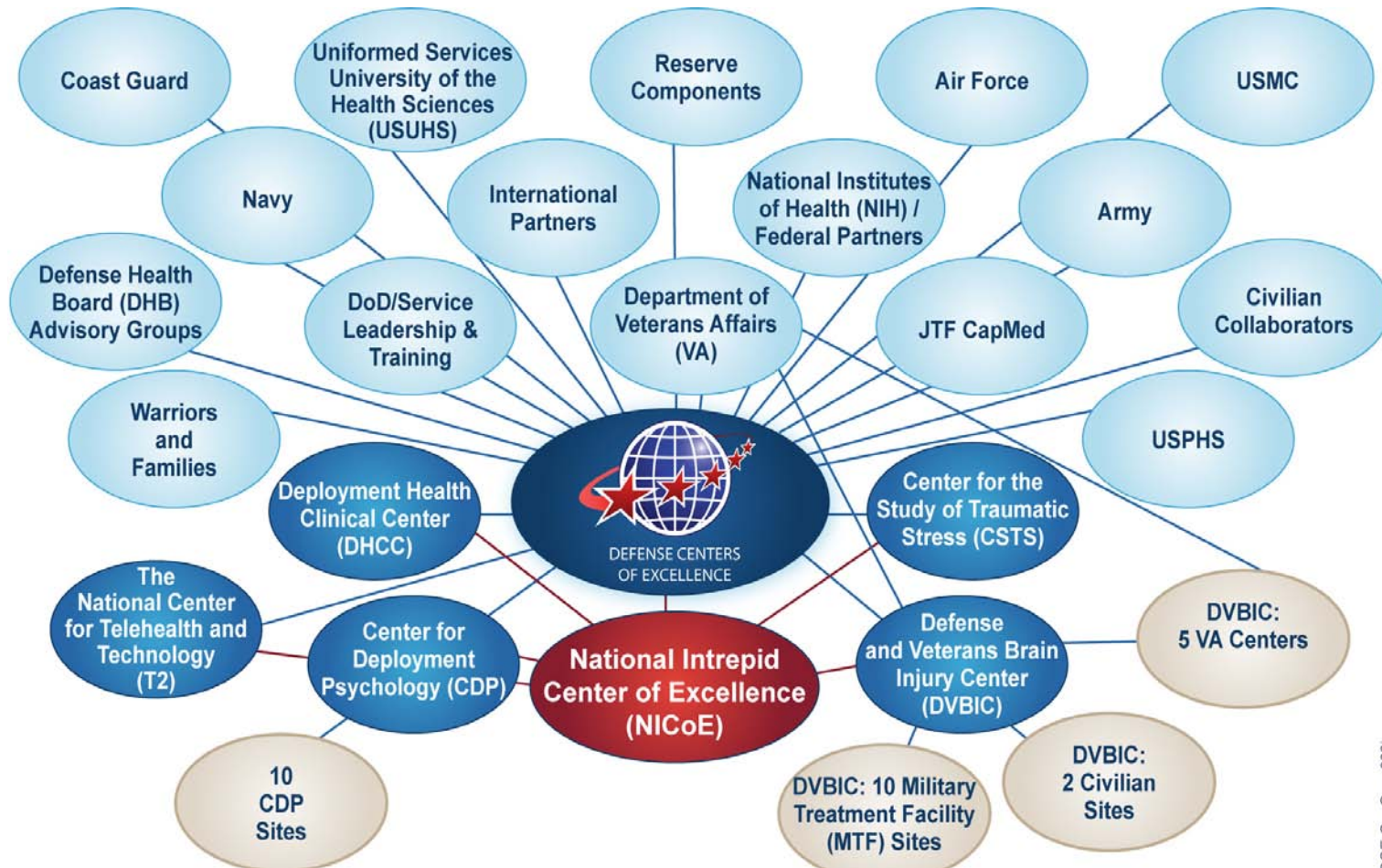


# DCoE Collaborations



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# Selected Accomplishments to Date

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- NICOE Groundbreaking in JUN 2008
- Funded \$45M in PH/TBI Research
  - Including \$5M in CAM proposals
- Launched afterdeployment.org
- Partnered with WETA on Brainline
- Partnered with DoL and VA on America's Heroes at Work Campaign
- Revised/developed mTBI clinical practice guidelines with VA; Currently revising VA/DoD PTSD guidelines
- CDP Trained 1,178 Providers in FY 2008
- Cosponsored/hosted multiple conferences (Trauma Spectrum Disorders, Suicide Prevention, Warrior Resilience, Paving the Way Home)
- Launched 24/7 Outreach Center (866-966-1020)
- Initiated Real Warriors public awareness campaign

# Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury

**REAL WARRIORS.**



**REAL BATTLES.**



**REAL STRENGTH.**



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**Resilience • Recovery • Reintegration**

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# Questions?

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- For more information, visit:

[www.dcoe.health.mil](http://www.dcoe.health.mil)