



# SPIRITUAL CARE SYMPOSIUM 2016

## Improving Spiritual Care to Service Members with PTSD, TBI and Moral Injury and Their Family Caregivers-Enhancing Knowledge and Skills

**JULY 21, 2016 @ NMCSO, BLDG 5, AUDITORIUM**  
**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AGENDA**

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**0730-0800:** Registration and Welcome

**0800-0830:** Surgeon General (VTC with VADM C. Forrest Faison III, M.D)

**0830-1130:** Spirituality for Soul Healing: An Integrative Approach Using Logotherapy Lived.

*Presented by Nancy E. Dietsch, PhD, BCC*

Western culture is more noun based while Asian and middle-eastern language is verb based. I favor using a verb-based understanding so that Spirituality, soul, and spirit are alive, full of movement, not static, and always changing. Clinically trained chaplains are those who have been trained through a variety of disciplines to understand how our own interior awareness fuels the manner in which we engage others and sojourn with them. Viktor Frankl sees “spirit” as that which always remains whole, dwells within, and is a source of hope for something better – a means to transcend suffering and finding meaning in the current moment. Soul is that interior part of self that experiences the loss and blows of fate that need restoration. So, in using spirituality, one is bringing an approach of wholeness to enable the wounds to be experienced and transformed to meaning. Logotherapy is not a theory with a series of techniques to employ but rather a ‘lived’ experience. The manner in which you engage life reflects your own journey to discover meaning for you, to transcend the challenges of your own life, and embrace life with all its dimensions to move forward.

**1130-1300:** Lunch



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**1300-1600:** The Warrior Behind The Warrior: Caring For The Intimate Caregiver.  
*Presented by Jessie T. Logan, Ph.D*

This presentation is a description of the presenter's recently conducted research which examined the lived experiences of caregiving spouses of combatants with traumatic brain injuries and how they maintained their resilience. Studies reporting information on the role of providing care for persons who have sustained a traumatic brain injury have described it as burdensome, isolating, and emotionally challenging. This study employed semi-structured individual interviews with five spouses of service members to gain a better understanding of the impact of their husbands' combat injury on their marital relationships and satisfaction. In this study, their efforts to cope as caregivers was explored and provided some ways clinicians may be able to assist them.

**1600-1630:** Wrap-up and Evaluations