

Emory Healthcare Veterans Program Team

EMORY
HEALTHCARE

Veterans Program

The Emory Healthcare Veterans Program (EHVP) provides nationally renowned care for healing the invisible wounds of military service. Meet our expert team of leaders, clinicians, case managers, data analysts, outreach coordinators and administrative specialists who work together to help our veterans and service members reclaim their lives.

Leadership

Barbara O. Rothbaum, PhD, ABPP, Director



Dr. Rothbaum is a caring, compassionate, effective and active clinician and is a professor and Associate Vice Chair of Clinical Research at Emory School of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Director of the Trauma and Anxiety Recovery Program and holds the Paul A. Janssen Chair in Neuropsychopharmacology. She has devoted her career to developing, testing and disseminating some of the most innovative and effective treatments available for PTSD. Dr. Rothbaum is an inventor of virtual reality exposure therapy and pioneered applying the treatment for PTSD in combat veterans. She has authored over 350 scientific papers and chapters, has published 11 books on the treatment of PTSD and edited four others on anxiety, and received the Diplomate in Behavioral Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology.

Sheila A. M. Rauch, PhD, Clinical Director



Dr. Rauch has provided PTSD and anxiety disorders treatment, training and research for more than 20 years. She leads PTSD treatment outcomes and mechanisms trials at the VA and Emory and serves as a VHA Prolonged Exposure Therapy Roll Out Trainer. Her research focuses on translational treatment outcomes and modifications of proven treatments for use in alternate settings, such as primary care. She has published scholarly articles and book chapters in the areas of anxiety disorders and PTSD and has been involved in the modification and adaptation of proven psychotherapeutic interventions for anxiety disorders for various populations and settings, including primary care.

Liza Zwiebach, PhD, Clinical Director



Dr. Zwiebach is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry at the Emory University School of Medicine. She received her PhD from the University of Massachusetts Boston. Dr. Zwiebach completed clinical training at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial VA Medical Center in Bedford, Massachusetts and at Bellevue Hospital Center in New York City. Her background includes work with active military, veteran and law enforcement personnel.

Sarah Schwartz, MSW, MBA, MHA, Program Director



Sarah has served as the program director at EHVP for several years. Prior to EHVP, she was the executive director of a statewide mental health nonprofit organization for a decade. Having successfully led behavioral health care operations management, programming and financial planning at this organization and others, she has a proven history of strengthening organizations, strategic leadership and improving access and outcomes for individuals suffering from mental illness. Earlier in her career, Sarah sharpened her clinical skills by providing various forms of therapy to vulnerable populations and then working in psychiatric clinical trials for eight years. Her familiarity with clinical work, along with her business acumen, give her greater insight into successfully managing a behavioral health program.

Boadie W. Dunlop, MD, MS, Medical Director



Dr. Dunlop has served as director of the Emory Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program since 2006. Prior to this role, he worked for years as an inpatient and outpatient psychiatrist at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. His clinical research program is focused on neurobiology and treatment of major depressive and anxiety disorders with a particular focus on PTSD. He has served as an investigator for more than 50 clinical studies of medication and psychotherapy treatments for these conditions. Dr. Dunlop has published extensively on depression, PTSD and anxiety disorders, and has authored a book and eight book chapters on these topics.

Lieutenant General (ret.) William "Burke" Garrett III, Executive Advisor



Burke Garrett joined EHVP after 35 years of distinguished military service, including deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq. He is committed to helping the program grow into a national center of excellence dedicated to healing the invisible wounds of military service through world-class clinical care, wellness, education and research. Burke's enduring gratitude for the sacrifices made by our nation's service members will always be the spirit behind his work.

Vanessa Roberson, MHA, Manager of Clinical Operations



Vanessa received her Master of Healthcare Administration from the University of Phoenix. She has been with Emory Healthcare for several years, most recently serving as a Veteran Outreach Coordinator for EHVP for three years and then working as the Supervisor of Business Operations in the Ophthalmology Department. She is excited to return to EHVP in a management role. Vanessa comes from a military family and is married to an Army veteran. She has a passion for mental health and a huge heart for veterans.

Outreach Coordinators

Shaun Lewis, JD, Lead Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Shaun joined the United States Army in 2001. After finishing active duty, he transitioned into the Army Reserve and attended Auburn University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in international business (cum laude). Upon graduation, he commissioned into the Army National Guard as an engineer officer. He later deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2010, he attended the Georgia State University College of Law. After completion of his Juris Doctor, he worked as a veteran recruitment specialist for Victory Media, and helped universities and Fortune 1000 companies build strong veteran recruitment programs. In 2015, Shaun joined Hire Heroes USA to be an advocate for transitioning service members and military spouses. In 2017, Shaun joined the EHVP team.

James Brown, BS, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



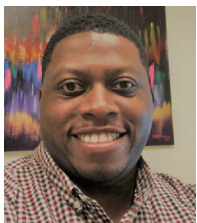
James is a United States Air Force veteran, serving 11 years of active duty, domestically and abroad. During his Air Force career, he served as a Sexual Assault Victims Advocate, Resiliency Trainer, Dover Port Mortuary, and Dormitory Manager, among other jobs. While serving, James completed his Bachelor of Science in psychology. After separating from the Air Force, he worked for Google Maps and Covenant House of Georgia. James has a passion for human services, specifically veterans.

Jeffrey Canterbury, MS, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Jeffrey has served over eight years as a traditional Army National Guardsman for both Wisconsin and Georgia. He worked in a support company as a driver while earning his Bachelor of Arts in biblical counseling at Maranatha Baptist University. While serving as a medical planner for combat arms battalions, he became a level one certified Master Resiliency Trainer, went through ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training), and began his Master of Science in organizational leadership with an emphasis on health care management from Regent University. Jeffrey was deployed with his unit to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel in January of 2019. Later in 2019, Jeffrey joined the EHVP team.

Joshua Moss, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Joshua graduated from Clayton State University with a Bachelor of Science in psychology. He has been a member of the Georgia Army National Guard since May 2001, and comes from a long line of veterans in his family. Joshua was deployed to Iraq in 2005 and Afghanistan in 2009 and served as a mechanic, recovery team member and team leader on a Personal Security Detail team. He has a strong passion for helping veterans and feels that EHVP is a great place to provide compassionate and quality assistance to our fellow veterans.

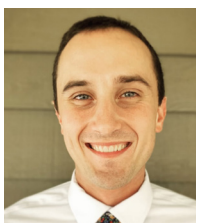
Imarii Poindexter, BS, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Imarii is a United States Navy veteran, serving 5 years active duty with two deployments as an Aviation Ordinance team member. Imarii completed her Bachelor of Science in psychology after separating from the Navy. Before joining the EHVP team in 2020 as a Veterans Outreach Coordinator, Imarii worked in Human Resources as an integral member of the Strategy Center of Excellence team and worked on strategies for the veteran's program at UPS Corporate. Imarii has a passion for psychology and contributing to the veteran community.

Clinical

Mark Burton, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Mark received his PhD in clinical psychology from Case Western Reserve University and completed his predoctoral internship at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center and Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Burton specializes in exposure-based treatment for PTSD, and has an extensive background providing evidence-based treatment for anxiety and mood related difficulties to help veterans and civilians improve their daily lives. His research focuses on enhancing access to exposure-based treatment for PTSD, while identifying predictors of treatment success.

Margaret Caruso, MS, Psychological Specialist



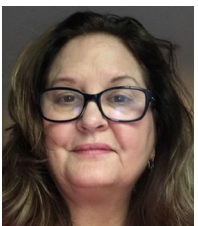
Margaret is a doctoral candidate in the clinical psychology program at Auburn University. She received her Master of Science in clinical psychology at Auburn focusing on the relationship between PTSD, TBI, and alcohol use among Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans. Her research and clinical interests include PTSD, substance use and related problems.

Karen Drexler, PhD, Attending Psychiatrist



Dr. Drexler serves as an Attending Psychiatrist in the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program, as Medical Director for the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, and as Clinical Associate Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. She directed the Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program at the Atlanta VA Medical Center and the Emory Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship for 20 years before transferring to VA Central Office in 2014. Her research interests include health services and translational research in addiction prevention and treatment.

Kathleen Jarboe, MS, APRN, Clinical Nurse Specialist



Kathleen is board certified in adult psychiatric and mental health nursing as an advanced practice registered nurse. She obtained her Master of Science in nursing from Georgia State University specializing in mental health. She practiced at Emory University Hospital for the first five years as a staff nurse, then head nurse in general psychiatry and research. The next 11 years were spent as nurse manager of the Schizophrenia and Bipolar Clinical Trials Program with The Emory University School of Medicine. She has also assisted in the development of clinical research sites (Phases II-IV) on a national level with a focus on the central nervous system. Kathleen also has experience practicing in the community mental health sector.

Brittany Lannert, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Lannert is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. She earned her PhD from Michigan State University and has been proud to work with veterans at both the Portland VA Medical Center in Portland, Oregon and the Battle Creek VA Medical Center in Battle Creek, Michigan. Dr. Lannert specializes in providing person-centered, evidence-based treatment for PTSD and associated stress-related disorders. That includes cognitive-behavioral, motivational and mindfulness-based therapies, with an emphasis on growth- and strength-based approaches to recovery.

Laura Loucks, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Loucks is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Loucks earned her PhD in clinical psychology at the University of Georgia. She completed her clinical internship at the Memphis VA Medical Center and her postdoctoral fellowship at Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Loucks enjoys providing evidence-based treatment for individuals and families, with emphasis on PTSD and comorbid disorders. Her research interests focus on examining relations among PTSD and family relationship functioning and related interventions. She is passionate about helping veterans and families build resilience.

Jessica Maples-Keller, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Maples-Keller is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University School of Medicine. She specializes in exposure-based interventions for PTSD and anxiety disorders. She received her PhD from the University of Georgia and completed her clinical internship at the Medical University of South Carolina and her postdoctoral fellowship with EHVP. Dr. Maples-Keller's research interests include how we can use translational models of fear and anxiety to understand and improve exposure therapy and investigating factors that confer risk or impact treatment response for PTSD and anxiety disorders.

Mansi Mehta, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Mehta received her PhD in clinical psychology from Kent State University in Ohio and completed her predoctoral internship at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. Dr. Mehta is a proponent of evidence-based treatment for depression, PTSD, and other related problems like insomnia. She is also passionate about providing high quality services to veterans, service members, and their families. Her research interests include women's experiences of negative moods, trauma, and stress.

Vivianne Nguku, MS, Nurse Practitioner



Vivianne Nguku is a board-certified nurse practitioner with a focus on family medicine. She received her Master of Science in nursing from South University in Savannah, Georgia. Vivianne's experience includes over ten years working as a registered nurse treating patients with chronic illnesses. She is currently pursuing her Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certification.

Maria Nylocks, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow



Dr. Nylocks earned her PhD in clinical psychology at Kent State University in Ohio and completed her predoctoral internship at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Nylocks is passionate about providing evidence-based treatment for PTSD and other trauma-related disorders to veterans, service members, and civilians. Her research interests include identifying the predictors of PTSD and transdiagnostic emotion-related factors that contribute to treatment response.

Katie Ragsdale, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Ragsdale is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. She earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Central Florida in Orlando and completed her internship and fellowship at the Salem VA Medical Center in Salem, Virginia. Dr. Ragsdale is passionate about the evidence-based treatment of PTSD and comorbid disorders, with particular interests in exposure therapy and other behavioral treatments.

Andrew Sherrill, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Sherrill is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. He earned his PhD from Northern Illinois University. He completed his predoctoral internship at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System and his postdoctoral fellowship at Emory University. Dr. Sherrill is dedicated to providing evidence-based psychotherapies to veterans and helping clinical trainees develop competencies necessary for this population. He values service, discovery, camaraderie and liberty. He is passionate about supporting veterans live consistently with their own freely chosen values.

Kelsey Sprang Jones, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Sprang earned her PhD in clinical psychology from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and completed her doctoral internship as the general psychology intern at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Sprang specializes in providing evidence-based treatments to individuals with trauma histories and other related disorders (i.e. substance use, mood disorders, personality disorders, emotion regulation concerns and history of brain injuries). Dr. Sprang is dedicated to providing client-driven individualized trauma-focused treatment to foster healing and change.

Drew Teer, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow



Dr. Teer received his PhD in clinical psychology from Emory University and completed his internship through Emory University's School of Medicine at Grady Hospital. Drew is passionate about providing science-based treatments for PTSD and other internalizing disorders. His research interests include identifying factors that may influence responses to PTSD treatment, and enhancing treatments for complex trauma populations.

Laura Watkins, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Watkins is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. She earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She completed her predoctoral internship at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center Psychology Internship Consortium. She was also a postdoctoral fellow at the Clinical Neurosciences Division of the National Center for PTSD at West Haven VA Medical Center. Dr. Watkins specializes in providing evidence-based treatments for PTSD, substance use and related problems.

Anna Wise, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow



Dr. Wise received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Kent State University in Ohio and completed her predoctoral internship at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is committed to providing evidence-based treatments for PTSD, anxiety and mood disorders, with particular interest in exposure-based interventions. Her research interests include examination of psychosocial factors associated with symptom risk, maintenance, and recovery following trauma exposure.

Carly Yasinski, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Yasinski is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. She earned her PhD from the University of Delaware, completed her clinical internship at the Medical College of Georgia and Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, and her postdoctoral fellowship with EHVP. Dr. Yasinski is dedicated to providing compassionate, evidence-based care for veterans, service members and their families, with a focus on cognitive-behavioral and mindfulness-based approaches to treating depression and PTSD. Her research includes a better understanding of the process of change during psychotherapy for these disorders and improving clinical outcomes.

Case Management

Elizabeth (“Lindy”) Carbone, LCSW, Manager, Social Services



Lindy has a Bachelor of Science in psychology from the University of Tennessee and a Master of Science in social work from the University of North Dakota. She has worked in the field of mental health for more than 20 years, providing treatment in the areas of substance abuse, depression, anxiety, trauma and other mental health issues. She has worked with veterans in multiple settings, including the Atlanta VA Medical Center where she provided group-based exposure therapy as well as psychoeducation to veterans with PTSD. Lindy specializes in a holistic approach to treatment incorporating healthy eating, exercise, individual treatment plans, and case management.

Nickie Cockerham, MSW, Social Worker



Nickie received her Master of Science in social work from the University of Alabama. She completed her clinical internships at Beauregard Memorial Hospital in DeRidder, Louisiana and Coliseum Center for Behavioral Health in Macon, Georgia.

Sean Dougherty, LCSW, Social Worker



Sean received his Master of Science in social work from the University at Buffalo in New York. Before joining EHVP, Sean served as a social worker for the Georgia Regional Hospital in Atlanta and worked as an outreach case manager for homeless individuals in Buffalo, New York.

Giselle Remy-Bryan, LCSW, M.Div, Social Worker



Giselle spent her formative years as an Army brat and is the spouse of an Army veteran. She personally knows the challenges that veterans and their families face. She received her Master of social work from Rutgers University, with a concentration in health, mental health and aging. Giselle has served veterans for several years in multiple health care settings. She is passionate about connecting veterans with care through case management and family services.

Tiffany Wilcox, LCSW, Social Worker



Tiffany received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in social work at Florida State University. She grew up in a military family and town, which is what fostered her passion for working with veterans. Tiffany completed her internships at Georgia Regional Hospital of Atlanta and at the Atlanta VA Medical Center in the Geriatric clinic. She has also worked in home health, the Atlanta VA Homeless Program, and Home Hospice. Tiffany is currently pursuing her LCSW.

Research and Data

Keren Antoine, BS, Research Specialist



Keren graduated from Georgia State University with a Bachelor of Science in biology and is pursuing a graduate degree in public health with a concentration in epidemiology. She has over 4 years of experience working in the analytical and immunochemistry laboratory setting. Keren currently serves as the research specialist for the Grady Trauma Project and Emory Healthcare Veterans Program.

Kathryn Black, Research Data/Informatics Specialist, Sr.



Kathryn has a background in clinical and translational research in psychiatry. As the Data Analyst, she is responsible for timely and accurate data collection and reporting to support patient care and strategic decision making. Kathryn earned her Bachelor of Science in psychology and a Master of Science in public health from Emory University.

Meagan Dove, BS, Research Interviewer



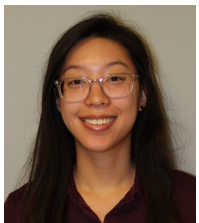
Meagan obtained a Bachelor of Science in public health at Stetson University in Florida. As a research interviewer, Meagan is involved in a variety of tasks such as: the administration of surveys, collection of biological samples, and the input of psychophysiological data.

Syreese Fuller, BS, Lead Clinical Research Coordinator



Syreese Fuller is responsible for the management, coordination and regulatory compliance of research projects. Syreese earned her Bachelor of Science in biology from Tuskegee University. She has a keen interest in health-related research with over six years of experience in clinical and behavioral research at various institutions, such as Emory University Hospital Midtown and Grady Memorial Hospital.

Amy Kim, BS, Project Coordinator



Amy graduated Emory University with a Bachelor of Science in quantitative sciences. She returned to Emory as a research interviewer, which involves administering surveys, obtaining biological samples, and input of psychophysiological data, among other tasks.

Tahira M. Scott, MPH, Research Interviewer



Tahira received her Master of Science in public health with a concentration in epidemiology from Georgia State University. Before joining the EHVP team in 2021, she worked as a research assistant aiding in a wide range of studies from oral health disparities in minority communities to reproductive health in lupus patients. She enjoys nature walks, picnics, and discovering new recipes to try.

Bonnie Seifert, BS, Data Analyst



Bonnie maintains and ensures the quality of data as well as the integrity of the data systems that support EHVP. She graduated with honors from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of Science in psychology and plans to attend graduate school to pursue her passion for Neuropsychology and PTSD research.

Catie Spaulding, BA, Research Interviewer



Catie received her Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Bates College. After graduation, she moved to Connecticut, where she taught elementary education for two years. Having grown up in a military family, she is excited to be part of the EHVP team. She currently works as a research interviewer, which includes administering surveys, collecting biological samples, and the input of psychophysiological data.

Administrative

Chemedria Ballard, BS, Patient Services Coordinator III



Chemedria is a caring, effective, and compassionate front desk attendant. Prior to EHVP, she studied Health Information Technology at Devry University. She's committed to helping veterans, and feels this program is the best place to start.

Phillip Colon, BS, Patient Care Coordinator



Phillip handles all patient care coordination for the warriors. Phillip served in the Army from 2006 to 2010, with a deployment to Iraq. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in history and sociology from Georgia State University.

Vickie Howard, BS, Senior Administrative Assistant



Vickie provides administrative support to the entire program. Before joining EHVP in July 2019, Vickie worked in the Department of Emergency Medicine for 15 years. During her tenure, she supported the research, Toxicology and Ultrasound Programs. Some of the duties included calendar management, purchasing card reconciliation, travel management, employee orientation, space reservations, and budget expenditures. She is a graduate of Savannah State University with a Bachelor of Science in business administration.

Melody Jackson, BA, Coordinator of Business Services



Melody serves as the liaison for program participants and handles their schedules and travel activities. She graduated from Alverno College in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts in community leadership and development. Before joining EHVP as the Coordinator of Business Services, Melody worked as a Patient Services Coordinator and Medical Secretary for the Emory Orthopaedics & Spine Center.

Charlandra Williams, BS, Patient Care Coordinator



Charlandra handles the veterans' travel arrangements, appointments, activities and schedules. She is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the daughter of a Vietnam veteran. She chose to spend a year giving back to the community and volunteered with an AmeriCorps program called City Year in Jacksonville, Florida. She then made her way back to Atlanta where she was part of the Emory Orthopedics and Spine Clinic before joining EHVP.