

## Implementing a Recovery Coordination Program

With significant injuries during OIF/OEF, the military health system was challenged by the complex care needs of the wounded and their families. Dedicated care coordination efforts were needed to address the wars' signature injuries, such as amputee rehabilitation, traumatic brain injury (TBI), and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). To answer the call, the 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James Conway, outlined plans for a single unit where wounded, ill or injured Marines and Sailors could recover together. In April of 2007, the Wounded Warrior Regiment (WWR) was established. In 2008, Congress required that all services have a Recovery Coordination Program to support both combat and non-combat wounded, ill, or injured (WII) Marines. Integral to the non-medical care coordination is a clear understanding of medical recoveries. The WWR included medical advocacy as a key element of its staff to ensure no Marine or Sailor faced unnecessary challenges in receiving the care they deserve.

## Medical Section Support Role and Functions

**THE MEDICAL SECTION IS A COMPONENT OF WWR THAT PROVIDES MEDICAL SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTISE, ADVOCACY, AND LIAISON TO THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING VETERAN AFFAIRS (VA) HEALTH CARE CENTERS, MILITARY TREATMENT FACILITIES, CIVILIAN AND COMMUNITY MEDICAL PROVIDERS AS WELL AS ACADEMIC UNIVERSITIES AND NON-PROFIT AGENCIES.**

### ***Advocacy***

- Provide a comprehensive psychological health and TBI program to help every recovering service members (RSMs) receive the best prevention, identification, and treatment.
- Advocate for RSMs within the Department of Defense (DoD)/VA Health Care System to ensure rapid access to care and proper screening. Coordinate care through multiple contacts in civilian, military, and veteran medical facilities.

### ***Education***

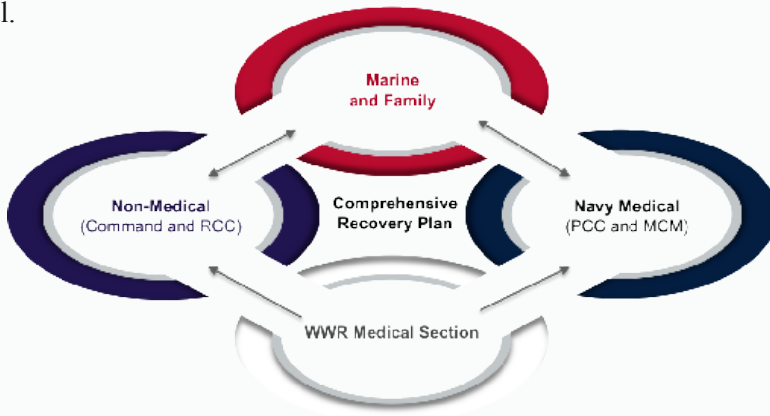
- Provide education and resources so that RSMs and their families can address concerns related to relationship stress, memory loss, sleep problems, anxiety, and depression.
- Assist commands and WWR staff by evaluating the needs of RSMs and answering questions about medical symptoms and diagnoses.

### ***Coordination***

- Coordinate with medical providers, case managers, multi-disciplinary teams, and WWR District Injured Support Coordinators (DISC)/ Field Support Representatives (FSR), and Recovery Care Coordinators (RCCs).
- Collaborate with civilian organizations that provide treatment programs for PTSD/substance use disorder and TBI rehabilitation and reintegration.
- Work with military treatment facilities and VA hospitals/clinics by connecting RSMs to case managers and VA personnel for screening and treatment.

## Bridging The Gaps

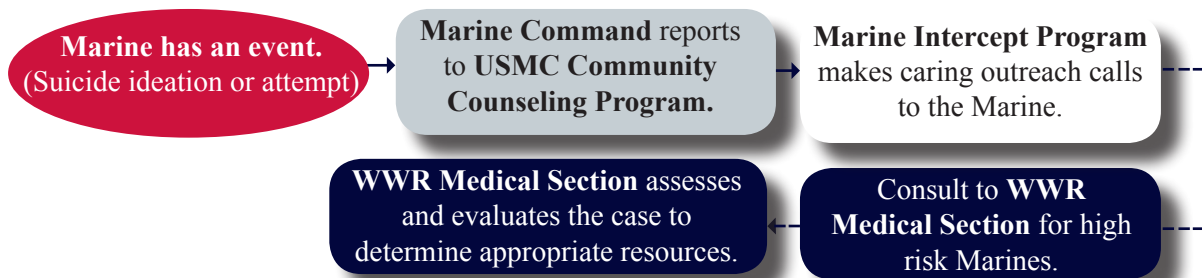
The **WWR Medical Section** acts as a link between Marines/families, commands, and the medical community. The **comprehensive recovery plan** outlines each RSM's goals with action steps to achieve each goal.



## Marine Intercept Program: Suicide Prevention

### *A Partnership with Marine Corps Community Counselors*

Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) Marine Intercept Program (MIP) provides support to commanders and Marines identified with suicide ideations or attempts. Community counselors make caring contacts with the Marine to reduce further suicide behaviors. With high risk or transitioning Marines, the community counselors may collaborate with WWR Medical Section to provide additional services.



## Contact Us

To contact the WWR Medical Section email [medcell@usmc.mil](mailto:medcell@usmc.mil) or visit our website to fill out the medical section referral form at [www.woundedwarrior.marines.mil/yourhealth/](http://www.woundedwarrior.marines.mil/yourhealth/)

### Sergeant Merlin German Wounded Warrior Call Center

Available 24/7, the Wounded Warrior Call Center extends support to WII Marines through advocacy, resource identification, referral, information distribution, and care coordination by phone, text, and social media. Battalion contact centers support WII active duty Marines who remain with their units while recovering.

**Sergeant Merlin German Wounded Warrior Call Center | 1-877-487-6299**