

Kate Sullivan: (203) 569 - 0293

kate.sullivan@cohenveteransnetwork.org

Cohen Veterans Network Stands by Our Country's Hidden Helpers

CVN partners with WWP to care for children who act as caregivers in military households

Stamford, Conn., August 2, 2022 – Today, <u>Cohen Veterans Network</u> (CVN), a national not-for-profit network of mental health clinics for post-9/11 veterans, service members and their families, further their commitment to caring for military children through a new initiative called "Hidden Helpers". This initiative will focus on children who act as caregivers in military households, who are receiving care at any of their 21 Cohen Clinics around the country. Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) partners with CVN to enhance care to this population.

"This is a priority population for Cohen Veterans Network, as it has been since day one. We know that military children face all kinds of stressors and providing care to an adult in the home is great example of an added challenge some kids experience," said CVN President & CEO Dr. Anthony Hassan. "We thank Wound Warrior Project for enabling us to expand our care to these remarkably resilient children throughout the country."

Hidden Helpers are defined as children and adolescents with a wounded, ill, or injured veteran or active-duty parent or guardian. Roughly 50% of all clients at CVN are military family members, and of that group 14% are children.

On July 11, as part of Wounded Warrior Project's commitment to the <u>Hidden Helpers Coalition</u>, WWP unveiled funding to support CVN and other organizations serving children and youth caregivers of wounded, ill, and injured service members and veterans.

CVN received a grant to support therapy sessions for Hidden Helpers and to supplement the need for extended care for this population. While CVN's clinical treatment model focuses on a targeted care approach (with an average episode of care lasting 8 to 12 sessions), child and adolescent clients who have parents with mental health or physical illness often benefit from longer treatment; this grant funding will enable us to extend support to our clients in meeting their clinical care needs.

Since its inception in April 2016, CVN has provided high-quality, accessible mental health services to more than 32,000 individuals. The network provides mental health services to post-9/11 veterans, active duty service members and military family members through its 21 Cohen Clinics across the country. Treatment is available for a wide variety of mental health challenges including PTSD, depression, anxiety, adjustment issues, anger, grief and loss, family issues, transition challenges, relationship problems, and children's behavioral problems. Care is available in person or via CVN Telehealth, face-to-face video therapy.



ABOUT COHEN VETERANS NETWORK

Cohen Veterans Network (CVN) is a 501(c)(3) national not-for-profit philanthropic organization for post-9/11 veterans, active duty service members and their families. CVN focuses on improving mental health outcomes, operating a network of outpatient mental health clinics in high-need communities, in which trained clinicians deliver holistic evidence-based care to treat mental health conditions. It was established in 2016 by philanthropist Steven A. Cohen with a commitment of \$275 million to build the network. Learn more about CVN here.

-end-