

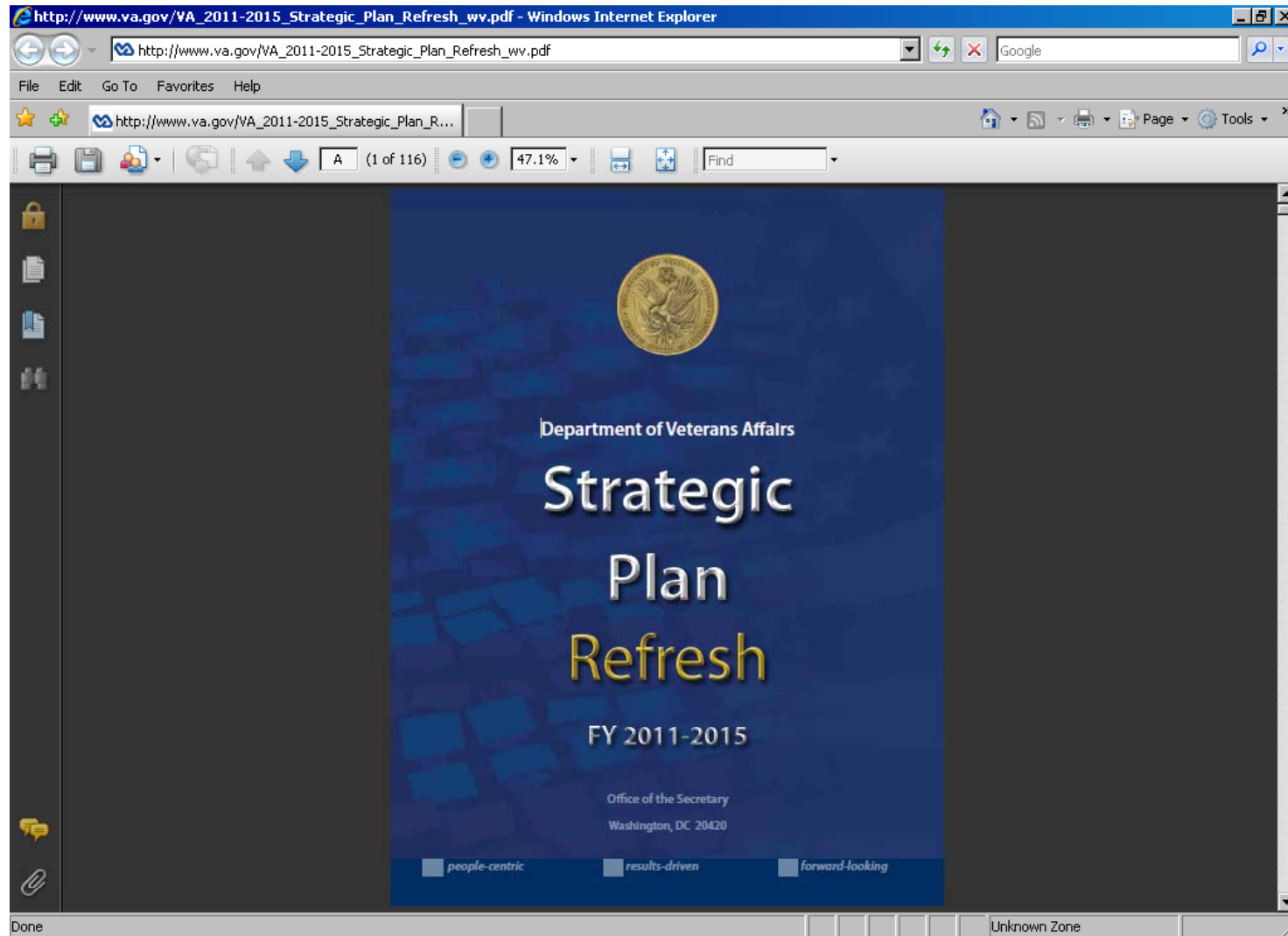


Improve Veterans Mental Health (IVMH)

The Mental Health Initiative

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IVMH is one of the Secretary's 16 transformation initiatives



http://www.va.gov/VA_2011-2015_Strategic_Plan_Refresh_wv.pdf



IVMH is one of seven transformation initiatives within VHA

- Oversight and coordination is provided by the VHA Office of Health Care Transformation.

<http://vaww4.va.gov/HEALTHTRANSFORMATION/index.asp>

- The Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning has disseminated the FY11-13 operating plans for the seven VHA initiatives.

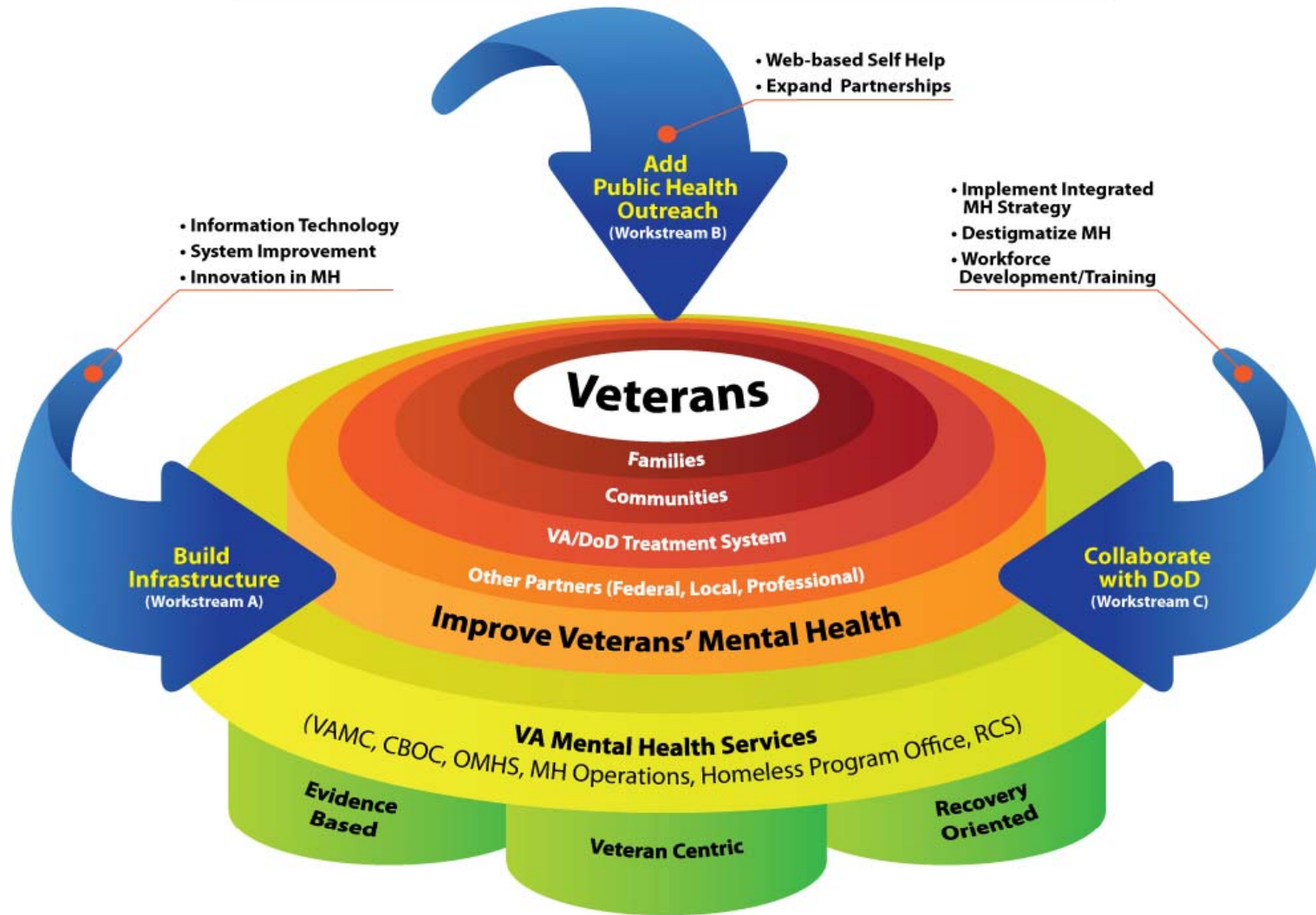
http://vaww4.va.gov/vhaopp/VHA_operating_plans11_13.asp



Goals/Objectives of IVMH

- To continue the transformation of Mental Health that began with the publication of the Uniform Mental Health Services Handbook through:
 - Building the infrastructure to sustain the transformation
 - Expanding programs and resources to reach and support Veterans in communities in which they live
 - Implementing the VA-DoD Integrated Mental Health Strategy approved in November 2010

FY 11-13 Transformational Plan to Improve Veterans' Mental Health





Building the Infrastructure:

- Enhance the MH IT infrastructure

- Includes staged IT projects to support use of My HealtheVet, MHS treatment planning software, high risk patient tracking, improvement in MH clinical reminders, outcomes tracking software, and tracking to improve use of psychopharmacology
- Development of policies and directives to support the use of all the above.



Building the Infrastructure:

■ Provide technical assistance

- Development of a system improvement process to provide monitoring, feedback, and technical expertise for program implementation
- Development of methods to obtain real time measures of mental health outcomes



Building the Infrastructure:

- Pilot innovations & consider dissemination
 - Academic Detailing to increase use of evidenced-based psychopharmacology
 - Focus groups to identify means to make VHA MH services more Veteran-centric and recovery-oriented



Building the Infrastructure:

- Continue MH Workforce Development
 - Training in Evidenced Based Treatment (including behavioral medicine, couples therapies, and SUD treatments)
 - Mandatory MST training
 - Monitor the impact of C&P exam demand on the provision of clinical services



Expanding Public Health Outreach:

- Develop public health oriented MH services
 - Develop web-based program to coordinate self-help resources for veterans
 - Develop demonstration projects to support Veterans in the workplace and consider expansion options
 - Support demonstration projects for returning Veterans enrolled in colleges and universities and consider expansion options
 - Develop toolkits to educate community providers



Expanding Public Health Outreach:

- Partner with community organizations
 - Develop outreach mechanisms to support partnerships with national community organizations
 - Inventory and disseminate a listing of mental health providers with knowledge of Veteran and military service issues



Implementing VA/DoD Integrated Strategy

- Develop clinical programs collaboratively
 - Suicide prevention programs
 - inTransition Program
 - VA/DoD approaches for training and practice
 - Pilot program to provide telephone coaching to assist Veteran family members
 - Prevention programs based on resilience for Veterans and family members
 - Strategies to link telehealth programs across VA/DoD



Implementing VA/DoD Integrated Strategy

- Destigmatize the use of MH services
 - Complete national messaging campaign in collaboration with DoD to promote Veterans mental health and the use of mental health services



Implementing VA/DoD Integrated Strategy

- Develop policies & procedures collaboratively
 - Confidentiality of mental health services
 - Mental health screening procedures
 - Methods to evaluate patient outcomes for quality improvement and comparative effectiveness studies
 - Tracking of relevant research findings and recommendations for future research



Implementing VA/DoD Integrated Strategy

- Collaborate in workforce development
 - MOU with Army to help address needs of returning Service members during a surge home
 - Enhance the role of chaplains in the mental health continuum in VA
 - Support returning service members who want to seek careers in mental health



Performance Metrics

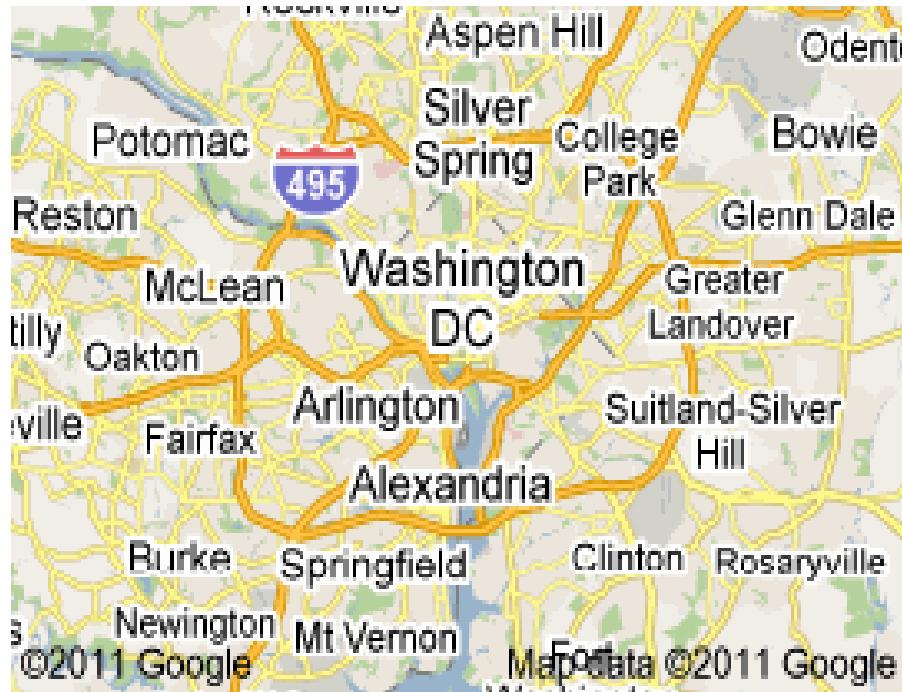
■ Current

- Mental health staffing
- Use of target PTSD therapies
- Implementation of the UMHS Handbook
- Assignment of the MHTC

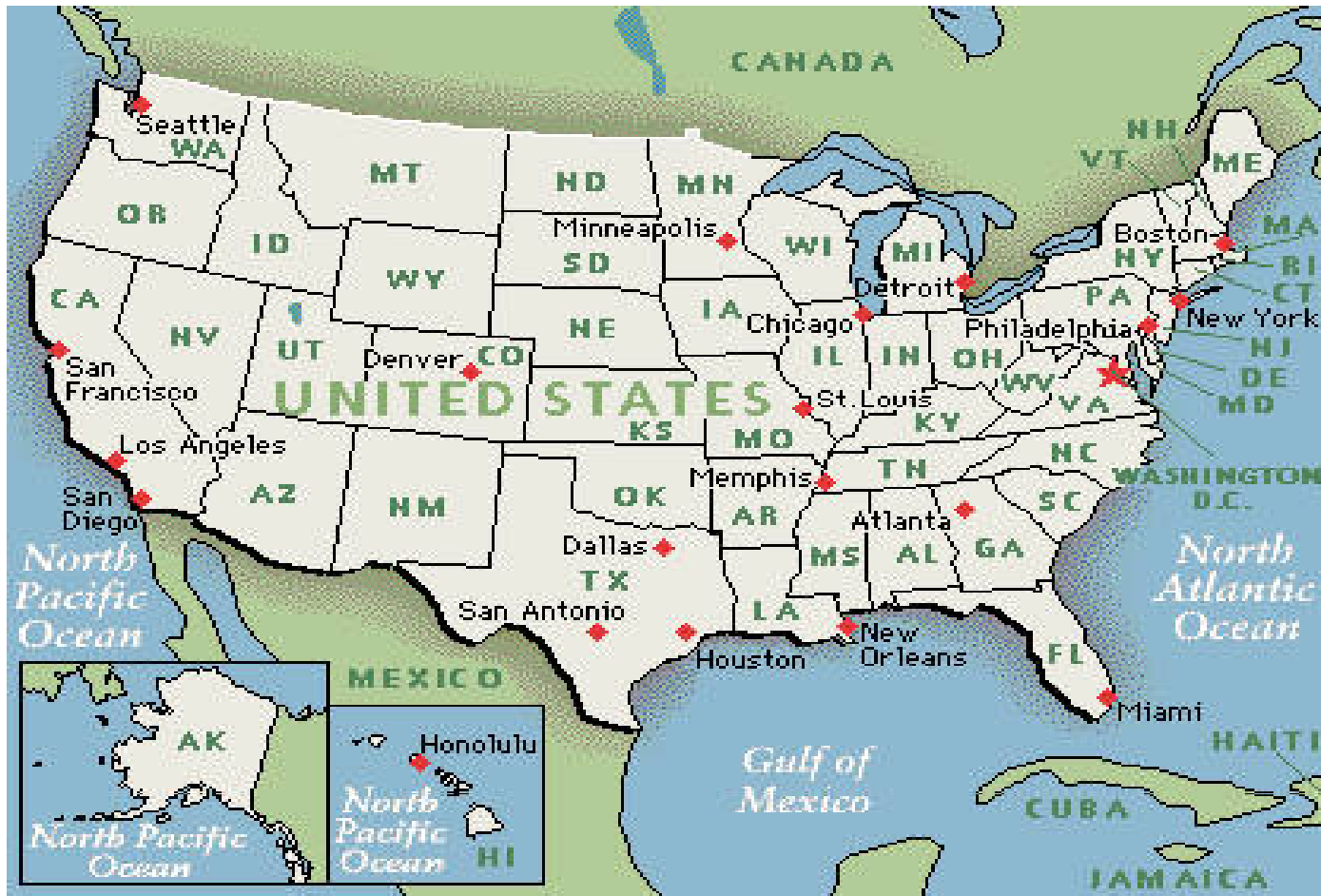
■ Emerging

- Outcome metrics PTSD, SUD, & Depression
- More to be defined

IVMH is NOT a beltway project



IVMH must engage every Veteran and VHA MH provider





The leap to sustainment

- The goal of the transformation is to change the culture of the entire system, the way we do business on a daily basis
- All T21 initiatives are time-limited by nature
- Sustainment of transformation within the fabric of the organization depends upon every provider, service line, facility, network



How will you be engaged?

■ What are you doing to:

- Organize your work around the Veteran's goals
- Develop new skills and improve the way you practice
- Help your service line and facility transform operations to meet current demands and opportunities
- Support fellow employees who are struggling
- Provide excellence in mental health care through innovation, public health outreach, and seamless transition from active duty for our Nation's Veterans

■ Tools for sustainment:

- Conferences, conference calls, staff meetings
- What else?