

Warriors Research Institute

**ANNUAL REPORT
FY2018**

**Director and Chief:
Dr. Suzy Bird Gulliver**

**Associate Director:
Dr. Eric Meyer**



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

In 1949, the scientist-practitioner model of psychology training was proposed. Also known as the Boulder model of training, its aspirational tenants are to train applied psychologists to embrace empirical evidence in all of their practice, to train future providers to this standard of care, and to continuously inform the paradigms of the field. In this year, I feel that the Warriors Research Institute (“WRI”) has lived up to the expectations of the Boulder model. We are providing evidence-based care, evidence-based training, and we are contributing to the knowledge base through our science.

As I write this introduction to our annual report, I am delighted to note that five busy, productive years are behind us, and our program continues to grow. When we began in April of 2013, we were half our current size! This steady growth has allowed us to strengthen our team both near and far, with a particular focus inside the state of Texas this year. We have added new colleagues to our group and expanded our student group as discussed in the pages that follow.

The theme of Fiscal Year 2018 has been strengthening peer support and building community collaboration: as I referenced in last year’s report, the Baylor Scott & White Research Institute (“BSWRI”) received a large matching grant for our program from the state of Texas to fill gaps in veteran and veteran family behavioral health care. The grant addresses three initiatives: first, to provide a standardized, evidence -based, Peer Support Training to veterans and veteran family members interested in developing Peer Support Specialist skills; second, to train a culturally sensitive cadre of evidence-based clinicians skilled in delivery of ACT, CPT and the Unified Protocol for Transdiagnostic Treatment of Emotional Disorders via telemental health; and third, to stand up a telemental health research clinic in which therapist adherence, compliance, and competence are systematically evaluated. This grant strengthened our collaboration with local universities including Baylor University and University of Mary-Hardin Baylor, each of whom have participating faculty and students. Moreover, the grant allowed us to hire Ms. Jessica Rostockyj as Program Manager, herself a veteran family member. Mr. Alton McCallum is our lead instructor, and as retired military, he also serves as the primary cultural sensitivity trainer for our clinicians. Ms. Rostockyj has done an extraordinary job of reaching out and connecting us to multiple veteran-centric organizations. As of this writing, we have our first cadre of Peer Support Specialists trained, and our second group will be trained in July. Patients are currently receiving treatment in the telemental health clinic, our first practicum students have completed, and our new practicum student has started.

In a similar vein, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded a grant to BSWRI for WRI programs to test and develop effective treatment options for Texas firefighters. This grant will build a fire service cultural awareness training for clinicians, as well as a telemental health clinic that delivers a culturally-sensitive iteration of the Unified Protocol. This two-year award will provide excellent care to underserved Texas firefighters



and yield preliminary outcome data to inform future care for rural and underserved emergency responders. Program Manager Michelle Pennington has completed her first year of graduate study at Baylor University while managing the FEMA project. As an extension of her studies in public health and her work with fire service, she will complete a survey study of Vancouver Firefighters that serve the metropolitan area surrounding a safe injection site. This exciting and independent work extends our local/international collaborations.

Program Manager Alexia Maness led our group in the organization of interested parties in the Waco area to develop a prospectus for a Recovery High School for teens in recovery from substance use and mental health conditions, and we are truly thrilled to participate in multiple youth-oriented organizations in our community. This project is of interest to the WRI as so many emergency responders and veteran families struggle to support their youth through difficult transitions. Stay tuned for additional updates on this important expansion. The Baylor Scott & White – Central Texas Foundation as well as Baylor Scott & White Health (BSWH) Department of Psychiatry have been instrumental in the organization of this nascent initiative.

In addition to the supervision and training delivered to our WRI students, Dr. Meyer has continued his excellent ACT training of BSWH mental health staff and this year is embarking on a train-the-trainer curriculum. My efforts to be of service to Central Texas included serving as the IAFF Hurricane Harvey Peer Support Staff Clinician and Coordinator for 9 days in September of 2017, as well as delivery of a PTSD training to the entire Bryan fire department in May of 2018.

We anticipate a very exciting 2019 for WRI – our group has 2 grants underway, an additional 4 grants under review, and 11 manuscripts in development.

Sincerely,



Suzy Bird Gulliver



VISION

Our program's mission is to improve the quality of care available to military veterans and emergency responders via a program of scientific inquiry. We develop and disseminate new treatments for those suffering the sequelae of toxic or traumatic work events. In addition to providing and evaluating state-of-the-art experimental treatments, we train future generations of treatment providers in evolving evidence-based care.

GOALS FOR FY2018

1. Develop and disseminate research regarding treatments for veterans and first responders
2. Further the reach of accessible behavioral health treatment and resources
3. Mentor early investigators
4. Promote research awareness

FY2018 HIGHLIGHTS

FY2018 – JULY 2017-JUNE 2018

- 2 grant proposals awarded funding; 4 proposals under review
- 9 research publications
- 8 research manuscripts under peer review
- 6 media appearances
- 25 local/national/international presentations
- 5 grant review sessions completed (2-Department of Veterans Affairs, 3-NIAAA)
- 8 completed journal reviews
- 23 posters/presentations/abstracts
- 6 new positions created

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WRI's program at Baylor Scott & White Research Institute, founded in April 2013, has been awarded over \$4 million since its inception. WRI researchers have participated in 12 research projects, yielding over 40 manuscripts. Additionally, WRI staff have been involved in over 100 presentations nationally and internationally. WRI founder, Dr. Suzy Bird Gulliver, Director and Chief, fostered WRI's growth by mentoring staff and volunteers, serving on 11 boards, committees, and panels, leading research endeavors, and consulting for the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) and the National Development and Research Institutes (NDRI).

RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION

BUILDING PEER SUPPORT AND TELEHEALTH FOR CENTRAL TEXAS VETERANS

A 2016 Needs Assessment conducted by the Weathers Foundation determined that, many veterans and family members are not receiving evidence-based mental health care. We have approached this with a two-pronged service facilitation project: first, we adapted the Peer Support Training curriculum previously developed and tested within fire service and then



delivered the training to both veterans and veteran family members with lived experience of PTSD and its attendant concerns. Through these trainings, we are building and maintaining relationships with a group of Peer Support Specialists who can serve as trouble-shooters and bridges to professional care for individuals in distress in the Central Texas community. Second, we trained and supervised a cadre of Baylor University and University of Mary-Hardin Baylor (UMHB) graduate students (Psy.D and LICSW candidates) and one postdoctoral fellow in military cultural awareness and in the delivery of three evidence-based behavioral treatments: Cognitive Processing Treatment (CPT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), and the Unified Protocol (UP) via telemedicine.

PROJECT ACCESS: EXPANDING EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT VIA TELEHEALTH FOR FIRE SERVICE

The lack of access to culturally-aware clinicians is a significant barrier to adequate mental health care in fire service. International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) President Harold Schaitberger has addressed the need for “trained professionals who understand their profession and their experiences,” yet access to clinicians with awareness of fire service culture continues to be a hindrance. We are developing and implementing a telemental health clinic that provides protocol driven, evidence-based treatment to Texas firefighters via graduate student and postdoctoral clinicians trained and supervised by firefighter peers and culturally-aware clinicians. Project ACCESS will demonstrate that telehealth is a viable treatment option for firefighters, while increasing help-seeking and enhancing behavioral health wellness of firefighters by offering a low-/no-cost option for confidential, accessible, culturally relevant treatment.

COLLABORATOR FEATURE

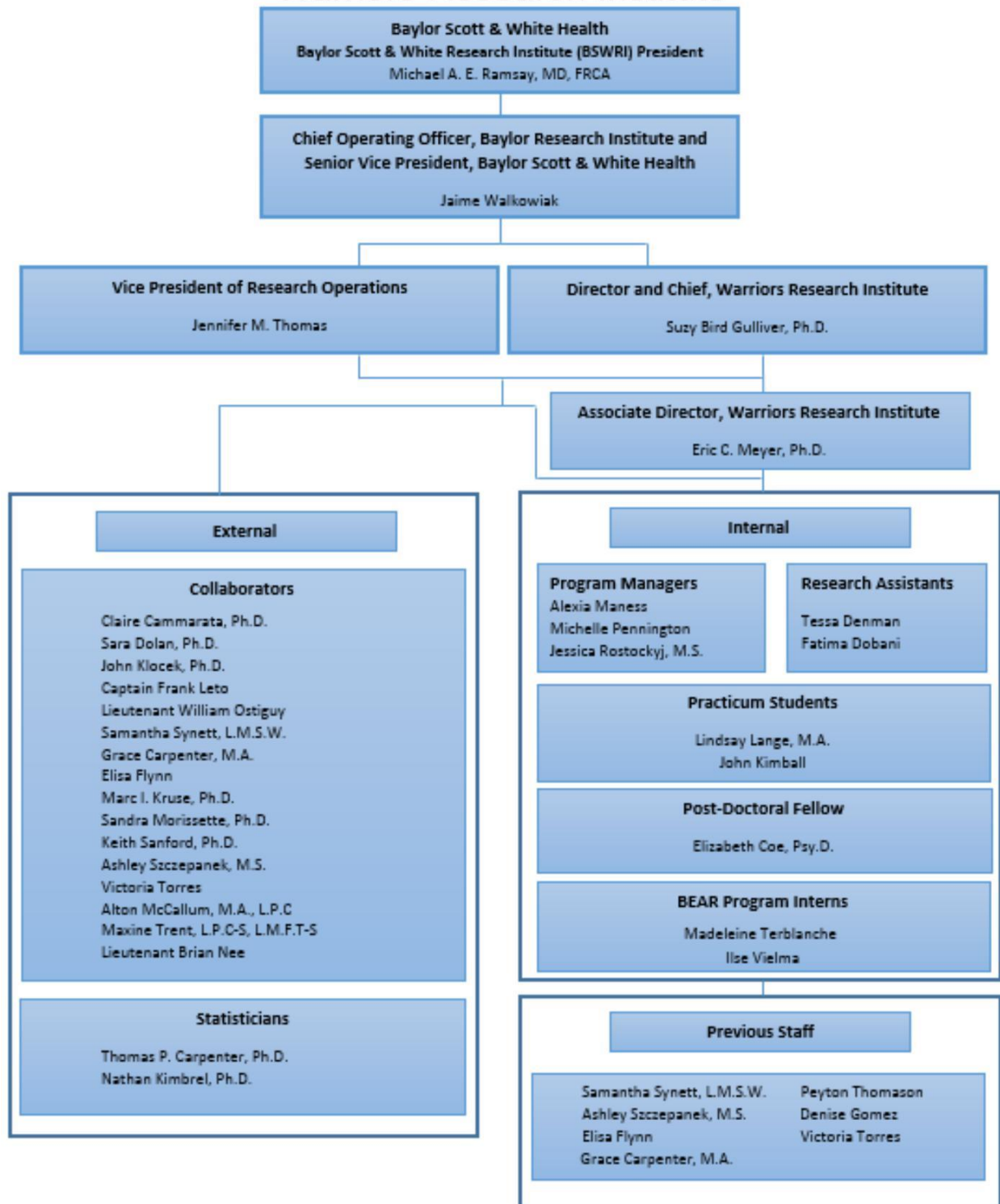
ALTON McCALLUM, M.A., L.P.C.

Alton has experience working with people living with PTSD, anxiety, depression, identity-related challenges, relationship problems, fatigue/burnout, and transitional and development issues. As a retired combat veteran, Alton has a special interest in helping service members, veterans, and their family members overcome life's circumstances that affect career, marriage, family and social relationships. Alton has been instrumental in the planning and execution of our Central Texas Veteran Peer Support Training and Veteran Telehealth Treatment projects.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Warriors Research Institute



GRANTS/PROPOSALS SUMMITTED/PENDING FY2018

| | Grant Title | Lead Investigator | Agency |
|----|---|-------------------|--|
| 1. | A Mixed Methods Study of the Feasibility of the Unified Protocol for Transdiagnostic Treatment of Emotional Disorders for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Co-occurring Mental Health and Alcohol Use Disorders | MEYER, EC (PI) | Collaborative Faculty Research Investment Program (Baylor Scott & White Health, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor University) |
| 2. | Firefighter Longitudinal Assessment and Support Following Hurricane Harvey | GULLIVER, SB (PI) | FEMA |
| 3. | Behavioral Health Workforce Research Center at Baylor Scott & White Health (BHWRC-BSWH) | GULLIVER, SB (PI) | Health Resources and Services Administration |
| 4. | Capitalizing on an existing needs assessment and community partnerships in McLennan County: Deepening understanding of mental health-related wellness and using a flexible, bundled approach to address identified needs | MEYER, EC (PI) | Hogg Foundation for Mental Health |

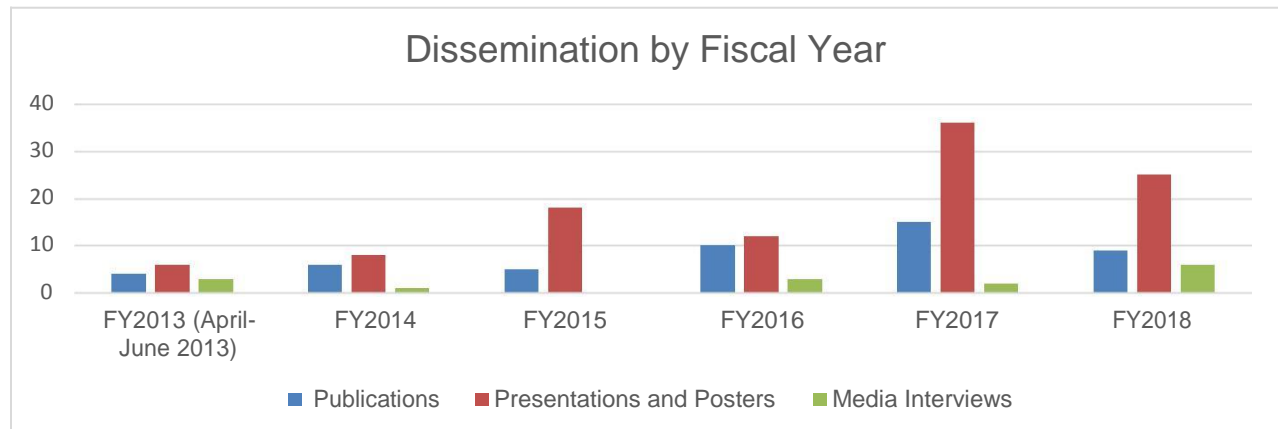
GRANTS/PROPOSALS FUNDED FY2018

| | Grant Title | Award Number | Investigator | Agency | Period of Funding | Total Direct Costs |
|----|--|-------------------|--|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Project ACCESS: Expanding Evidence-based Treatment Via Telehealth for Fire Service | EMW-2016-FP-00371 | GULLIVER, SB (PI) | FEMA | 09/01/2017 – 08/31/2019 | \$1,500,000 |
| 2. | Problematic Drinking among Latina/o College Students: The Role of Enculturation and Traditional Gender Roles | 1 F31 AA026477-01 | PERROTTE, J (PI); GULLIVER, SB (MENTOR) | NIAAA NRSA F31 | 09/07/2017 – 08/31/2019 | \$66,996 |

ONGOING GRANTS/PROJECTS FY2018

| | Grant Title | Award Number | Investigator | Agency | Period of Funding | Total Direct Costs |
|----|---|-------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|
| 1. | Stamp Out Stigma: A National Campaign to Decrease Stigma and Increase Behavioral Health in Fire Service | EMW – 2014 – FP – 00924 | Gulliver, SB (PI) | FEMA | 07/31/2015 – 07/30/2017 (No cost extension) | \$1,394,953 |
| 3. | Evaluation of the NFFF's Behavioral Health Stress First Aid Intervention | EMW – 2014 – FP - 00945 | Jahnke, S (PI; National Development and Research Institutes, Inc.) | FEMA | 09/10/2015 – 08/05/2018 | subcontract: \$12,000 |
| 4. | Affect Regulation Training for Alcohol Use Disorder: A Stage II Efficacy Trial | 1R01AA024628-01A1 | Stasiewicz, P and Bradizza, C (PI; Research Institute on Addictions); Gulliver, SB (Co-I) | NIAAA | 04/01/2016 – 03/31/2021 | subcontract: \$75,299 |
| 6. | Building Peer Support and Telehealth for Central Texas Veterans | HHS000077100001 | Gulliver, SB (PI) | Texas Health and Human Services Commission Texas Veterans + Family Alliance | 06/01/2017 – 05/31/2019 | \$854,408 |

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES



PUBLICATIONS

PEER REVIEWED

1. Gulliver, S. B., Pennington, M. L., Torres, V. A., Steffen, L. E., Mardikar, A., Leto, F., Ostiguy, W., Kimbrel, N. A., & Zimering, R. T., (2018). Behavioral Health Programs in Fire Service: Surveying Access and Preferences. *Psychological Services*.
2. Morissette, S. B., DeBeer, B. B., Kimbrel, N. A., Meyer, E. C., & Gulliver, S. B. (2017). Deployment Characteristics and Long-Term PTSD Symptoms in Post-9/11 Veterans. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 74, 637-648. doi: 10.1002/jclp.22535.
3. Meyer, E. C., La Bash, H., DeBeer, B. B., Kimbrel, N. A., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. (in press). Psychological inflexibility predicts PTSD symptom severity in war veterans after accounting for established PTSD risk factors and personality. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*.
4. Meyer, E. C., Frankfurt, S. B., Kimbrel, N. A., DeBeer, B. B., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. (2018). The influence of mindfulness, self-compassion, psychological flexibility, and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder on disability and quality of life over time in war veterans. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*. doi: 10.1002/jclp.22596. [Epub ahead of print]
5. Gulliver, S. B., Zimering, R. T., Knight, J., Morissette, S. B., Kamholz, B. W., Meyer, E. C., Keane, T. M., Pennington, M. L., Denman, T. C., Carpenter, T. P., & Kimbrel, N. A. (in press). Tobacco and Alcohol Use among Firefighters during their First Three Years of Service. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*.
6. Kelly, M., DeBeer, B.B., Meyer, E.C., Kimbrel, N., Gulliver, S.B., & Morissette, S.B. (in press). Experiential avoidance as a mediator of the association between posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms and social support: A longitudinal analysis. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*.

7. Schumm, J.A., Gore, W.L., Chard, K.M., & Meyer, E.C. (2017). Examination of the WHODAS 2.0 as a Measure of Disability Severity Among Veterans Receiving Cognitive Processing Therapy. *Journal of Traumatic Stress, 30*, 704-709. doi: 10.1002/jts.22243.

PUBLISHED CHAPTERS, LETTERS AND COMMENTARIES

8. Kruse, M. I., Denman, T. C., Maness, A. G., & Gulliver, S. B. (in press). Co-Occurring PTSD and Substance Use Disorders. In B. A. Moore & W. E. Penk (Eds.) *Handbook for the Treatment of PTSD in Military Personnel (Second Edition)*. New York: Guilford Press.
9. Meyer, E.C., Kimbrel, N.A., Tull, M.T., & Morissette, S.B. (in press). PTSD and co-occurring affective and anxiety disorders. In B. Moore and W.E. Penk (Eds.). *Handbook for the Treatment of PTSD in Military Personnel (Second Edition)*. New York: Guilford.

MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED AS OF 06/30/2018

1. Meyer, E. C., Kotte, A., Kimbrel, N. A., DeBeer, B. B., Elliott, T. R., Gulliver, S. B. & Morissette, S. B. Predictors of lower-than-expected posttraumatic symptom severity in war veterans: The influence of personality, self-reported resilience, and psychological flexibility.
2. Gulliver, S. B., Richardson, S. & Cohen, L. M. (in preparation). Volume 3: Clinical and Behavioral Medicine and Special Issues in Health Psychology. Wiley Encyclopedia of Health Psychology.
3. Kittel, J.; DeBeer, B.B., Kimbrel, N.A., Meyer, E.C., Gulliver, S.B., & Morissette, S.B. Binge Drinking as a Prospective Predictor of Suicide Attempts in Female Veterans.
4. Velthorst, E., Bearden, C.E., Meyer, E.C., Giuliano, A.J., Addington, J., Cadenhead, K.S., Cannon, T.C., Cornblatt, B.A., McGlashan, T.H., Perkins, D.O., Tsuang, M.T., Walker, E.F., Woods, S.W., & Seidman, L.J. Identifying Heterogeneous Neurocognitive Profiles in the Prodrome to Psychosis in NAPLS-1: Towards Translation for Clinical Use in Individuals.
5. Crabtree, M.A., Meyer, E.C., Kimbrel, N.A., DeBeer, B.B., Kruse, M.I., Gulliver, S.B., Telch, M., & Morissette, S.B. Factor structure and initial validation of a brief measure of physical and emotional distress tolerance.
6. Ryan-Gonzalez, C., Kimbrel, N.A., Meyer, E.C., Gordon, E.M., DeBeer, B.B., Gulliver, S.B., Elliott, T.R., & Morissette, S.B. Differences in PTSD Symptoms among Post-9/11 Veterans with Blast- and Non-blast Mild TBI.
7. Blessing, A., DeBeer, B. B., Meyer, E. C., Riggs, S., Kimbrel, N. A., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. Deployment preparation, PTSD, and family functioning in returning veterans.

8. Crabtree, M., Hale, W. J., Meyer, E. C., Kimbrel, N. A., DeBeer, B. B., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. Dynamics of risk: Recent changes in psychological inflexibility precede subsequent changes in posttraumatic stress.

PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS (PAPERS AND POSTERS)

1. Dobani, F., Pennington, M. L., Denman, T. C., Maness, A. G., Gulliver, S. B. (2018, April). *Mediating effects of family social support on potentially traumatic events and PTSD in firefighters*. Poster presented at 6th annual Baylor Scott & White Health Central Texas Research Day, Temple, TX.
2. Maness, A. G., Gomez, D. R., Pennington, M. L., Denman, T. C., Thomason, P., Meyer, E. C., Leto, F. & Gulliver, S. B. (2018, April). *The utility of telephone supervision in peer support training for Texas firefighters*. Poster presented at 6th annual Baylor Scott & White Health Central Texas Research Day, Temple, TX.
3. Pennington, M. L., Dobani, F., Denman, T. C., Maness, A. G., Meyer, E. M., & Gulliver, S. B. (2018, April). *Mental functioning and drinking motives in firefighter recruits*. Poster presented at 6th annual Baylor Scott & White Health Central Texas Research Day, Temple, TX.
4. Terblanche, M., Pennington, M. L., Dobani, F., Denman, T. C., Maness, A. G., Meyer, E. C., & Gulliver, S. B. (2018, April). *Resilience and PTSD symptoms in firefighters*. Poster presented at 6th annual Baylor Scott & White Health Central Texas Research Day, Temple, TX.
5. Seebeck, J., Carpenter, T. P., Pennington, M. L., Gomez, D. R., Denman, T. C., Kimbrel, N. A., Cammarata, C., Leto, F., Ostiguy, W., & Gulliver, S. B. (2018, March). *Trait self-forgiveness predicts stigma and attitudes toward mental-health help seeking*. Poster presented at the 19th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
6. Maness, A. G., Gomez, D. R., Pennington, M. L., Denman, T. C., Thomason, P., Meyer, E. C., Leto, F., & Gulliver, S. B. (2017, November). *The utility of telephone supervision in peer support training for Texas firefighters*. Poster presented at Texas Psychological Association 2017 annual convention, Houston, TX.
7. Gulliver, S.B., Kimbrel, N.A., Meyer, E.C., Morissette, S.B., Zimering, R., & Knight, J. (2017, November). *Trying to spin gold from straw: What is state-of-the-art for assessment of PTSD and related disorders in firefighters?* In DeBeer, B., (Chair), *Complexity in Assessment: Objectivity in Novel Development and Validation of Measures in PTSD Populations*. Symposium presented at the 33rd annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Chicago, IL.
8. Torres, V. A., Gomez, D. R., Thomason, P. M., Pennington, M. L., Denman, T. C., Kimbrel, N. A., Kruse, M., Dolan, S., & Gulliver, S. B. (2017, November). *Sleep problems and posttraumatic stress disorder in fire service*. Poster presented at the 33rd annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Chicago, IL.



9. Frankfurt, S., Kimbrel, N.A., DeBeer, B.B., Gulliver, S.B., Morissette, S.B., & Meyer, E.C. (2017, November). Relation of PTSD-Personality subtypes to internalizing and externalizing outcomes. In Elhai, J. (Chair), *Examining the complexity of posttraumatic stress symptoms at the individual level: PTSD subtypes*. Symposium presented at the 33rd annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Chicago, IL.
10. La Bash, H., Meyer, E. C., Kimbrel, N. A., DeBeer, B. B., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B., (2017, November). *Gender differences in the association of combat exposure and military sexual trauma with postdeployment PTSD symptoms in Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Chicago, IL.
11. Blessing, A., DeBeer, B. R., Meyer, E. C., Kimbrel, N. A., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. (2017, November). *Deployment preparation, PTSD, and family functioning in returning veterans*. Poster presented at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT), San Diego, CA.
12. Morissette, S. B., DeBeer, B. B., Gulliver, S. B., Kimbrel, N. A., & Meyer, E. C. (2017, October). PTSD and poor functional outcomes increase suicide risk in post-9/11 veterans: The role of perceived burdensomeness. In L. Brown & C. Bryan (Chairs), *Suicide and PTSD*. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Combat PTSD Conference, San Antonio, TX.
13. Ryan-Gonzalez, C., Curtis, M. E., Meyer, E. C., DeBeer, B. B., Kimbrel, N. A., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. (2017, October). *Psychological inflexibility as a moderator of the relationship between pain and binge drinking among post-9/11 student veterans*. Poster presented at Combat PTSD Conference, San Antonio, TX.
14. Blessing, A., Crabtree, M. A., Meyer, E. C., Kimbrel, N. A., DeBeer, B. R., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. (2017, October). *Psychological inflexibility as a mediator of the relationship between nicotine dependence and PTSD*. Poster presented at Combat PTSD Conference 2017, San Antonio, TX.
15. Ryan-Gonzalez, C., Kimbrel, N. A., Meyer, E. C., DeBeer, B. B., Gulliver, S. B., & Morissette, S. B. (2017, July). *Differences in PTSD symptoms among post-9/11 veterans with blast- and non-blast TBI*. Poster session presented at the Army Medical Department Center and School Health Readiness Center of Excellence 2017 Graduate School Research Symposium, San Antonio, TX.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

1. Gulliver, S. B., Leto, F., Ostiguy, W., & Pennington, M. P. (2017, August). *Stamp Out Stigma: A National Campaign to Decrease Stigma and Increase Behavioral Health in Fire Service*. Presented at the John P. Redmond Health and Safety Symposium & Dominick F. Barbera EMS Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia.



2. Gulliver, S. B. (2017, September). *PTSD in Emergency Responders*. Presented at Saving Our Own Summit, Fairfax, VA.
3. Gulliver, S. B. (2017, October). *Early Intervention: Resiliency/effective coping skills and the mitigation of effects of traumatic events*. Presented at the Ministry of Labour PTSD Summit, Toronto, Ontario.
4. Gulliver, S. B., Leto, F., Ostiguy, W., & Pennington, M. L. (2018, January). *Stamp Out Stigma: Tools for Leaders to Overcome Stigma*. Presented at the 2018 Vincent J. Bollon Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS), Orlando, FL.
5. Gulliver, S. B. (2018, April). *Learning from our Emergency Responders: What Firefighters teach us about Stress and Coping*. Presented at 6th annual Baylor Scott & White Health Central Texas Research Day, Temple, TX.
6. Gulliver, S. B. (2018, April). *The Evolving Nature of Protocol-Driven Psychotherapy: A Review of the Development of the Unified Protocol for Transdiagnostic Treatment of Emotional Disorders*. Presented to Baylor University Psychology Graduate students, Waco, TX.
7. Gulliver, S. B. (2018, May). *PTSD in Fire Service: A 90-minute interactive workshop*. Presented as part of mandated annual Behavioral Health Awareness Training to Bryan Fire Department, Bryan, TX.
8. Meyer, E.C. (2017, August). Acceptance and Commitment Therapy: Experiential workshop for clinicians. Two-day clinical workshop presented at the University of Texas-San Antonio Counseling Center, San Antonio, TX. 15 attendees. 12 CMEs/CEUs provided.
9. Meyer, E.C. (2017, August). An introduction to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. 1.5 day clinical workshop presented at the Baylor Scott & White Health Mental Health Center, Temple, TX. 20 attendees. 9 CMEs/CEUs provided.
10. Meyer, E.C. (2017, November). Invited discussant on symposium titled: Complexity in assessment: Objectivity in novel development and validation of measures in PTSD populations. B. DeBeer, (Chair). Presented at the 33rd annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Chicago, IL.

MEDIA

1. *The Descending Limb*, IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery, Blog Post, (September 2017).
2. *Baylor Scott & White Warrior's Research Institute Launching Study on Veteran's Health*, Interviewed by Julie Hays, KWTX at Noon (April 2018). [Baylor Scott & White Warrior's Research Institute Launching Study On Veteran's Health](#)



3. *Baylor Scott & White Opens New Study to Veterans and their Families*, Interviewed by Greg Crosby, KXXV (April 2018).
4. *Bridging the mental health gap for veterans and first responders*, Scrubbing In: Hands-On Health Care Discussions by Baylor Scott & White Health, Blog Post, (May 2018).
5. *Signs of Suicide*, Interviewed by Seth Kovar, KXXV (June 2018). <http://www.kxxv.com/clip/14408630/ctnn-500-682018>
6. *Suicide signs and prevention: What to know*, Interviewed by Pete Sousa, KWTX (June 2018). <http://www.kwtx.com/video?vid=484975941>

TRAINEE OUTCOMES

- WRI's first Postdoctoral Fellow, Elizabeth Coe, PsyD, was hired in February 2018. Dr. Coe passed the Texas Jurisprudence Exam in April 2018 and continues to progress toward licensure as a Clinical Psychologist. During her time at the WRI, Dr. Coe has been trained in 4 evidence-based psychotherapies.
- Program Manager, Michelle Pennington, continues her graduate studies at Baylor University. Michelle will begin her research practicum at the WRI this summer.
- Senior Research Assistant, Tessa Denman, has been accepted to the JD program at the University of Texas Law School. Tessa will begin her graduate studies in the fall of 2018.
- Practicum Student Lindsay Lange continues her studies in the clinical psychology doctoral program at Baylor University. Lindsay completed her practicum rotation at the WRI in May 2018, and continues to provide evidence-based psychotherapy to veterans at her current practicum site. During her time at the WRI, Lindsay was trained in 4 evidence-based psychotherapies.
- Former Senior Research Assistant, Denise Gomez, continues her graduate studies at Parker University in the chiropractic doctoral program.
- Former Senior Research Assistant Victoria Torres continues her graduate studies at the University of Mississippi in the clinical psychology doctoral program. Victoria is studying substance use and abuse.
- Former Research Assistant, Grace Carpenter, completed her Master of Science in clinical mental health counseling at Portland State University.
- Former Research Assistant, Ashley Szczepanek, completed her master's degree in public health at University of New England. She is now the Research Operations Coordinator at TIRR Memorial Hermann in Houston, Texas.



- Former Research Assistant, Samantha Synett, LMSW currently serves as a Research Therapist for the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and STRONG STAR Research Consortium. Ms. Synett's work is part of a large, multi-site clinical trial entitled, "Project Remission: Maximizing Outcomes with Intensive Treatments for Combat-Related PTSD" that is led by co-Principal Investigators, Drs. Alan Peterson and Edna Foa. Ms. Synett is continuing her pursuit of advanced licensure as a clinical social worker.
- Former Research Assistant, Elisa Flynn, completed her master's degree in social work at the University of Houston.
- Former Scott & White Undergraduate Research Program (SWURP) Intern, Audrey Eichenberger, is working toward a medical doctoral degree at Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine.
- Jennifer Teague, also a former SWURP intern, is working toward a medical doctoral degree at the University of Texas at San Antonio.
- BEAR Program intern, Paulina Devora, graduated from Baylor University and is now a Psychometrist in the Neuropsychology Department of Baylor Scott & White Hospital in Temple, Texas.
- Former Baylor Excellence and Applied Research (BEAR) program intern Ilse Vielma will be moving to Oklahoma City, OK to teach secondary science through Teach for America, while simultaneously working towards a Masters of Education degree at the University of Oklahoma.
- Madeleine Terblanche, former BEAR intern graduated from Baylor University in May 2018. She will continue her education at Texas Woman's University to pursue a master's degree in occupational therapy.

OTHER SERVICE ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In addition, WRI investigators and collaborators contributed to several ventures beyond the scope of that which has been previously outlined. These activities include:

- The 2017 APA Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. was held August 3 – 6, 2017, and Dr. Gulliver was in attendance.
- Dr. Gulliver was an invited panelist for three NIAAA center grant review meetings in July of 2017 and April and May of 2018.
- In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, Dr. Gulliver served as the Peer Support Coordinator for the IAFF Disaster Response efforts in Houston, Texas on August 29 - September 6, 2017.



- Dr. Gulliver attended two Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences-B Merit Review subcommittee meetings for the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Research and Development in Washington, D.C. in November 2017 and June 2018.
- Dr. Gulliver attended meetings as a member of the IAFF Behavioral Health Task Force and the Advisory Committee for the IAFF Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery which began operations in March of 2017.
- The 2017 International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Division of Occupational Health, Safety and Medicine held the 2017 IAFF Instructor Development Conference in Clearwater, FL October 23 – 26, 2017. Dr. Gulliver was in attendance.
- Dr. Gulliver and Dr. Meyer attended and presented at the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS) 33rd Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois in November 2017.
- Dr. Gulliver and Program Manager Alexia Maness attended and presented at the 2017 Texas Psychological Association Annual Convention in Houston, Texas November 16-18, 2017.
- In April 2018, the Warriors Research Institute hosted a one-day Peer Support Training for Central Texas veterans and veteran family members as part of the project, *Building Peer Support and Telehealth for Central Texas Veterans*.
- WRI Program Manager Michelle Pennington and Research Assistant Tessa Denman both continue their work as volunteers for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of McLennan County.
- Dr. Meyer served as an evaluator for Baylor Scott & White Health Academic Operations Research Day on April 12th, 2018.
- Dr. Gulliver was invited to be a keynote speaker at Baylor Scott & White Health Academic Operations Research Week, April 2018.
- Dr. Gulliver attended the IAFF's Facilitation Training for Peer Support Specialists in Clearwater, FL in May 2018.
- Dr. Meyer facilitated a 6-month Acceptance and Commitment Therapy weekly consultation group that culminated in May 2018. Participants of the group included WRI trainees and BSWH clinicians.
- The 41st Annual Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA) Scientific Meeting is held in June each year. Dr. Gulliver was in attendance.

For additional information, please contact Alexia Maness at alexia.maness@bswhealth.org or 254-730-2672.

