



# USSOCOM Warrior Care Program (Care Coalition) Conference 2017

## Frequently Asked Questions



### **When and where is the conference?**

The annual USSOCOM Warrior Care Program (Care Coalition) Conference is being held March 1-2, 2017, in Downtown Tampa at the Westin Harbour Island Hotel:

[http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1764&language=en\\_US](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1764&language=en_US). This website is just for your situational awareness, they do not have lodging available.

Please register for the conference by clicking on this link:

<https://einvitations.afil.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=318959&k=01604A007E5E>

Check-in for preregistered attendees will be from 0830-0900. As traffic and parking are anticipated to be difficult, please allow for extra time.

### **What should I expect at the USSOCOM Care Coalition Conference?**

This year the Care Coalition Conference will be slightly different than previous years. The location is still at the Westin, but will not coincide with the SOFIC Conference. Instead, the Care Coalition Conference will coincide with our All Sports Training Camp, held at MacDill AFB in Tampa, FL. During the conference, we will be focusing on 'Addressing Enduring Warrior Care Challenges.'

We will conduct several panels covering some of the major current Special Operations Forces Wounded, Ill, and Injured (SOF WII) issues across the SOF Enterprise. Topics we will discuss throughout the conference are:

- Foundations of the Warrior Care Program (Care Coalition)
- Warrior Care Program (Care Coalition) Present and Future
- Systemic/Structural Changes to the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Proliferation of NICOE, DVBIC, and VA Polytrauma
- Advances in Pain Management (homeopathic and physical therapy)
- Research Studies of Functional Medicine (lead toxicity, testosterone, deficits, etc.)
- Emerging Medical Innovations on Prosthetics
- Adaptive Sports in Warrior Reintegration and Transition
- Impact to Children Panel: Life After Crisis
- Challenges of Living with PTS & TBI
- Seated Volleyball Exhibition (at MacDill AFB)\*

\*The Seated Volleyball Exhibition is an interactive event held at the Fitness Center on base; all conference personnel are encouraged to attend to meet those whom we support.

## Who may attend?

Anyone who provides assistance to SOF WII is welcome to attend the conference; if you have someone you would like to see added to the distribution list for conference emails, please send Megan Kostelnik an email address for them and she will add them:

[Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil](mailto:Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil)

Typical attendees are federal and non-federal personnel who support Wounded, Ill, and Injured Warriors and their families. These may include but are not limited to medical and non-medical case managers, medical personnel, family readiness, chaplains, behavioral health personnel, and leadership; other government agencies such as the VA; as well as representatives from non-profits and other programs that support SOF Warriors and their families.

## What is the Icebreaker?

The Icebreaker is a no-host social that is being held the night before the conference starts. It presents the opportunity for everyone to network and collaborate on ways to strengthen caring for SOF Wounded, Ill, and Injured Service Members and their families. Information and registration for the Icebreaker can be found on the registration link

(<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-ussocom-warrior-care-program-care-coalition-icebreaker-tickets-29377343425>).

## Non-Profits FAQs:

**Are there speaking slots available this year?** There are no speaking slots available this year due to our focus on Addressing Enduring Warrior Care Challenges.

**How do I get a booth and what does it look like?** During registration, you will have an option to select that you want a booth and will then have space to add information about what your display is like. All the booths will be a 6-foot skirted table you can use for a static display about your programs. There are a limited amount of booths and they can be reserved on a first come, first serve basis. Your booth must be set up by 0800 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, details to follow.

**How many people should I prepare to give information too (handouts)?** Plan for 300-350. There will be plenty of time for attendees to visit each booth, ask questions and pick up materials.

**Will I have internet and electricity?** There will not be enough electric outlets for everyone. Bring batteries if your display has to have it, but a static display is recommended. This year we will have WiFi available to all attendees.

**Rules?** The only rule is that these have to be information booths: no soliciting.

## Travel:

Expect to travel to Tampa early on Tuesday, 28 February (so you are afforded the opportunity to attend the Icebreaker) and depart either late Thursday evening or Friday morning.

If you know you are coming, or even strongly suspect you are coming, consider making lodging arrangements now. If you have trouble finding a room, please email Megan

([Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil](mailto:Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil)) so we know people are having issues. Try to get a room in Downtown Tampa or at a hotel that has “Airport” in the name. You may have to stay farther out, since Spring Break draws thousands of people to the area. Unfortunately, we are unable to block off rooms, so everyone is on their own.

**Will I need base access?**

The conference is held off base, but the All Sports Training Camp events and the Seated Volleyball Exhibition are held on base. If you plan to attend any Training Camp events or the exhibition, you will need base access. Please fill out the appropriate information on the RSVP of the registration link (<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=318959&k=01604A007E5E>). You can also email Megan Kostelnik ([Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil](mailto:Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil)) for assistance or questions.

**What about parking in downtown?**

We encourage carpooling if you are with a group. There is valet available at the Westin for a discounted rate of \$15 per car. There is also a parking garage with available parking on the Jackson’s side, however, the parking rate will not be discounted in the parking garage.

**Will there be refreshments at the conference?**

Yes. There will be coffee, tea, soda, water and light refreshments in the morning and afternoon breaks. If you have dietary restrictions we encourage you to bring your own snacks or beverages.

**Will there be a conference fee? No.**

**This all sounds great! How do I register?**

Please click on this link to register:

<https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=318959&k=01604A007E5E>

If you have any questions that are not answered here, please email:

[Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil](mailto:Megan.Kostelnik.ctr@socom.mil)