

Emory Healthcare Veterans Program Team

EMORY
HEALTHCARE
Veterans Program

The Emory Healthcare Veterans Program provides nationally renowned care for healing invisible wounds. Meet our expert team of leaders, clinicians, case managers, data analysts, outreach coordinators and administrative specialists who work together to help our veterans and service members transform their lives.

Leadership

Barbara O. Rothbaum, PhD, ABPP, Executive Director



Dr. Rothbaum is a caring, compassionate, effective and active clinician and is a professor and associate vice chair of clinical research at Emory School of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, director of the Trauma and Anxiety Recovery Program and holds the Paul A. Janssen Chair in Neuropsychopharmacology. She has devoted her career to developing, testing and disseminating some of the most innovative and effective treatments available for post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Dr. Rothbaum is an inventor of virtual reality exposure therapy and pioneered applying the treatment for PTSD in combat veterans. She has authored over 350 scientific papers and chapters, has published 11 books on the treatment of PTSD and edited four others on anxiety, and received the Diplomate in Behavioral Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology.

Sheila A. M. Rauch, PhD, Deputy Director



Dr. Rauch has provided PTSD and anxiety disorders treatment, training and research for more than 20 years. She leads PTSD treatment outcomes and mechanisms trials at the Department of Veterans Affairs and Emory and serves as a Veterans Health Administration Prolonged Exposure Therapy Roll Out trainer. Her research focuses on translational treatment outcomes and modifications of proven treatments for use in alternate settings such as primary care. She has published scholarly articles and book chapters in the areas of anxiety disorders and PTSD and has been involved in the modification and adaptation of proven psychotherapeutic interventions for anxiety disorders for various populations and settings including primary care.

Liza Zwiebach, PhD, Clinical Director



Dr. Zwiebach is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry at the Emory University School of Medicine. She received her PhD from the University of Massachusetts Boston. Dr. Zwiebach completed clinical training at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial VA Medical Center in Bedford, Massachusetts and at Bellevue Hospital Center in New York City. Her background includes work with active military, veteran and law enforcement personnel.

Sarah Schwartz, MSW, MBA, MHA, Program Director



Sarah has served as the program director at EHVP for several years. Prior to EHVP, she was the executive director of a statewide mental health nonprofit organization for a decade. Having successfully led behavioral health care operations management, programming and financial planning at this organization and others, she has a proven history of strengthening organizations, strategic leadership and improving access and outcomes for individuals suffering from mental illness. Earlier in her career, Sarah sharpened her clinical skills by providing various forms of therapy to vulnerable populations and then working in psychiatric clinical trials for eight years. Her familiarity with clinical work, along with her business acumen, gives her greater insight into successfully managing a behavioral health program.

Michael Lucido, MD, PhD, Medical Director



Dr. Lucido started as faculty at Emory University in 2021. Since that time, he has worked with varied patient populations and developed an interest in the care of patients with complex co-morbidities. Spending a significant portion of his time within the Emory Transplant Center, he has expertise in the management of mental health conditions, particularly depression, anxiety, and PTSD, in medically vulnerable patients. He has also become integrated within the Emory Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program as a co-investigator and site lead for the study of integrated and pharmacological interventions in these conditions. Due to his interest in PTSD, Dr. Lucido joined the EHVP team in 2025. In this role, he provides care for patients, contributes to leadership, and supervises our interdisciplinary medical team.

Lieutenant General (ret.) William “Burke” Garrett III, Executive Advisor



Burke Garrett joined EHVP after 35 years of distinguished military service, including deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq. He is committed to helping the program grow into a national center of excellence dedicated to healing the invisible wounds of military service through world-class clinical care, wellness, education and research. Burke's enduring gratitude for the sacrifices made by our nation's service members will always be the spirit behind his work.

Vanessa Roberson, MHA, Manager of Clinical Operations



Vanessa received her Master of Healthcare Administration from the University of Phoenix. She has been with Emory Healthcare for several years, most recently serving as a veteran outreach coordinator for EHVP for three years and then working as the supervisor of business operations in the Ophthalmology Department. She is excited to return to EHVP in a management role. Vanessa comes from a military family and is married to an Army veteran. She has a passion for mental health and a huge heart for veterans.

Charlandra Williams, MBA, Senior Manager, Business Operations



Charlandra received her Master of Business Administration from the Johns Hopkins Carey Business School, where she completed internships with Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. She has worked within Emory Healthcare for the past seven years and brings experience in process improvement, program logistics and financial planning. Charlandra's father was a Vietnam Veteran which has fueled her passion for helping veterans in any way she can.

Outreach Coordinators

Shaun Lewis, JD, Lead Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Shaun joined the United States Army in 2001. After finishing active duty, he transitioned into the Army Reserve and attended Auburn University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in International Business (cum laude). Upon graduation, he commissioned into the Army National Guard as an engineer officer. He later deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2010, he attended the Georgia State University College of Law. After completion of his Juris Doctor, he worked as a veteran recruitment specialist for Victory Media and helped universities and Fortune 1000 companies build strong veteran recruitment programs. In 2015, Shaun joined Hire Heroes USA to be an advocate for transitioning service members and military spouses. In 2017, Shaun joined the EHVP team.

James Brown, BS, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



James is a United States Air Force veteran, serving 11 years of active duty, domestically and abroad. During his Air Force career, he served as a sexual assault victims advocate, a resilience trainer at the Dover Port Mortuary and as a dormitory manager, among other jobs. While serving, James completed his Bachelor of Science in Psychology. After separating from the Air Force, he worked for Google Maps and Covenant House of Georgia. James has a passion for human services, specifically veterans.

Jeffrey Canterbury, MS, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Jeffrey has served over eight years as a traditional Army National Guardsman for both Wisconsin and Georgia. He worked in a support company as a driver while earning his Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Counseling at Maranatha Baptist University. While serving as a medical planner for combat arms battalions, he became a level one certified Master Resiliency Trainer, went through ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) and began his Master of Science in Organizational Leadership with an emphasis on health care management from Regent University. Jeffrey was deployed with his unit to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel in January of 2019. Later in 2019, Jeffrey joined the EHVP team.

Joshua Moss, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Joshua graduated from Clayton State University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. He has been a member of the Georgia Army National Guard since May 2001 and comes from a long line of veterans in his family. Joshua was deployed to Iraq in 2005 and Afghanistan in 2009 and served as a mechanic, recovery team member and team leader on a Personal Security Detail team. He has a strong passion for helping veterans and feels that EHVP is a great place to provide compassionate and quality assistance to our fellow veterans.

Imarii Poindexter, BS, Veteran Outreach Coordinator



Imarii is a United States Navy veteran serving five years active duty with two deployments as an Aviation Ordinance team member. Imarii completed her Bachelor of Science in Psychology after separating from the Navy. Before joining the EHVP team in 2020 as a veteran outreach coordinator, Imarii worked in Human Resources as an integral member of the Strategy Center of Excellence team and worked on strategies for the veteran's program at UPS Corporate. Imarii has a passion for psychology and contributing to the veteran community.

Claudia A. Delbasso, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow

Claudia received her PhD in Clinical and Community Psychology from Georgia State University and completed her predoctoral internship at the Medical University of South Carolina. Rooted in culturally responsive evidence-based practice, her clinical interests include strengths based approaches to care and examination of systems-level factors that affect health. Her research focuses on individual and contextual factors that inform positive outcomes, mental health, and resilience among racially/ethnically minoritized immigrant-origin communities and other underserved populations.

Karen Drexler, MD, Attending Psychiatrist

Dr. Drexler serves as an attending psychiatrist at EHVP and as Clinical Associate Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University. She is board certified in psychiatry and addiction psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. She attended Duke University School of Medicine on a U.S. Air Force Health Professions Scholarship and completed her psychiatry residency training at Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center. She served eight years as a psychiatrist in the U.S. Air Force before returning home to Atlanta and Emory University where she directed the Atlanta VA Substance Abuse Treatment Program from 1994 to 2014 and the Emory Addiction Psychiatry Residency Training Program from 2002 to 2014. She retired from the Veterans Health Administration as the National Mental Health Program Director for Substance Use Disorders in 2020 and from her position as Medical Director of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry in 2024. Her research interests include health services, clinical and translational research in addiction prevention and treatment. She is passionate about serving her fellow veterans here at EHVP.

Courtland Hyatt, PhD, Clinical Psychologist

Dr. Courtland Hyatt is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. He earned his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Georgia in Athens, GA, and completed his clinical internship and post-doctoral fellowship at VA Puget Sound in Seattle, WA. Dr. Hyatt strives to deliver psychotherapy that is evidence-based, warm, compassionate and supportive of the values expressed by his patients. His research interests include aggression, personality, PTSD, neuroimaging and open science methods.

Kelsey Sprang Jones, PsyD, Clinical Psychologist

Dr. Jones earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and completed her doctoral internship as the general psychology intern at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Jones specializes in providing evidence-based treatments to individuals with trauma histories and other related disorders (e.g. substance use, mood disorders, personality disorders, emotion regulation concerns and history of brain injuries). Dr. Jones is dedicated to providing client-driven individualized trauma-focused treatment to foster healing and change.

Katie Lanier, PhD, Clinical Psychologist

Dr. Lanier is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. She earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Central Florida in Orlando and completed her internship and fellowship at the Salem VA Medical Center in Salem, Virginia. Dr. Lanier is passionate about the evidence-based treatment of PTSD and comorbid disorders with particular interest in exposure therapy and other behavioral treatments.

Laura Loucks, PhD, Clinical Psychologist

Dr. Loucks is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Loucks earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology at the University of Georgia. She completed her clinical internship at the Memphis VA Medical Center and her postdoctoral fellowship at Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Loucks enjoys providing evidence-based treatment for individuals and families with emphasis on PTSD and comorbid disorders. Her research interests focus on examining relations among PTSD and family relationship functioning and related interventions. She is passionate about helping veterans and families build resilience.

Jessica Maples-Keller, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Maples-Keller is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University School of Medicine. She specializes in exposure-based interventions for PTSD and anxiety disorders. She received her PhD from the University of Georgia and completed her clinical internship at the Medical University of South Carolina and her postdoctoral fellowship with EHVP. Dr. Maples-Keller's research interests include how we can use translational models of fear and anxiety to understand and improve exposure therapy and investigating factors that confer risk or impact treatment response for PTSD and anxiety disorders.

Mansi Mehta, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Mehta received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Kent State University in Ohio and completed her predoctoral internship at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. Dr. Mehta is a proponent of evidence-based treatment for depression, PTSD and other related problems such as insomnia. She is also passionate about providing high-quality services to veterans, service members and their families. Her research interests include women's experiences of negative moods, trauma and stress.

Mahsa Mojallal, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow



Mahsa Mojallal received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of South Dakota. She completed her predoctoral internship at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Her research interests include investigating the role of risk and resilience factors that explain individual variability in trauma response in high-risk populations (including veterans, active military service members, first responders), and identifying the processes that impact the development of mental health outcomes, such as PTSD and moral injury. She is also interested in developing novel approaches to treating trauma-related disorders based on the client's idiosyncratic characteristics.

Vivianne Nguku, MS, Nurse Practitioner



Vivianne Nguku is a board-certified nurse practitioner with a focus on family medicine. She received her Master of Science in Nursing from South University in Savannah, Georgia. Vivianne's experience includes over 10 years working as a registered nurse treating patients with chronic illnesses. She is currently pursuing her Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certification.

Maria Nylocks, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Nylocks earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology at Kent State University in Ohio and completed her predoctoral internship at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Nylocks is passionate about providing evidence-based treatment for PTSD and other trauma-related disorders to veterans, service members and civilians. Her research interests include identifying the predictors of PTSD and transdiagnostic emotion-related factors that contribute to treatment response.

Andrew Sherrill, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Sherrill is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. He earned his PhD from Northern Illinois University. He completed his predoctoral internship at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System and his postdoctoral fellowship at Emory University. Dr. Sherrill is dedicated to providing evidence-based psychotherapies to veterans and helping clinical trainees develop competencies necessary for this population. He values service, discovery, camaraderie and liberty. He is passionate about supporting veterans live consistently with their own freely chosen values.

Katie Skelton, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow



Dr. Skelton earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Emory University and completed her predoctoral internship at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. Dr. Skelton is passionate about providing evidence-based treatment to service members and veterans, with an emphasis on the treatment of PTSD and co-occurring disorders. Her research interests include identifying genetic and environmental influences of mental health disorders with a particular interest in the development of substance use disorders.

Carly Thornhill, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow



Dr. Thornhill received her PhD in Counseling Psychology from Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas and completed her predoctoral internship at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Thornhill is passionate about providing evidence-based, quality care to veterans with PTSD, anxiety, and other regulation difficulties. Her research interests include the influence of trauma, particularly military sexual trauma, on health risk behaviors and chronic pain.

Laura Watkins, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Watkins is a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Emory University School of Medicine. She earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. She completed her predoctoral internship at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center Psychology Internship Consortium. She was also a postdoctoral fellow at the Clinical Neurosciences Division of the National Center for PTSD at West Haven VA Medical Center. Dr. Watkins specializes in providing evidence-based treatments for PTSD, substance use and related problems.

Anna Wise, PhD, Clinical Psychologist



Dr. Wise received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Kent State University in Ohio and completed her predoctoral internship at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is committed to providing evidence-based treatments for PTSD, anxiety and mood disorders, with particular interest in exposure-based interventions. Her research interests include examination of psychosocial factors associated with symptom risk, maintenance and recovery following trauma exposure.

Case Management

Elizabeth (“Lindy”) Carbone, LCSW, Social Services Manager



Lindy has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Tennessee and a Master of Science in Social Work from the University of North Dakota. She has worked in the field of mental health for more than 20 years providing treatment in the areas of substance abuse, depression, anxiety, trauma and other mental health issues. She has worked with veterans in multiple settings including the Atlanta VA Medical Center where she provided group-based exposure therapy as well as psychoeducation to veterans with PTSD. Lindy specializes in a holistic approach to treatment incorporating healthy eating, exercise, individual treatment plans and case management.

Nickie Cockerham, LCSW, Social Worker



Nickie received her Master of Science in Social Work from the University of Alabama. She completed her clinical internships at Beauregard Memorial Hospital in DeRidder, Louisiana and Coliseum Center for Behavioral Health in Macon, Georgia.

Sean Dougherty, LCSW, Social Worker



Sean received his Master of Science in Social Work from the University at Buffalo in New York. Before joining EHVP, Sean served as a social worker for the Georgia Regional Hospital in Atlanta and worked as an outreach case manager for homeless individuals in Buffalo, New York.

Brianne (Bri) Edwardsberry, LCSW, Social Worker



Bri received their Master of Social Work from Boston University. Before moving to Atlanta and working at EHVP, Bri worked as a clinical social worker at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Massachusetts General Hospital. They are particularly interested in working at the intersection of trauma, substance use and LGBTQ+ identities.

Giselle Remy-Bryan, LCSW, M.Div, Social Worker



Giselle spent her formative years as an Army brat and is the spouse of an Army veteran. She personally knows the challenges that veterans and their families face. She received her Master of Social Work from Rutgers University, with a concentration in health, mental health and aging. Giselle has served veterans for several years in multiple health care settings. She is passionate about connecting veterans with care through case management and family services.

Tiffany Wilcox, LCSW, Social Worker



Tiffany received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Social Work at Florida State University. She grew up in a military family and town which is what fostered her passion for working with veterans. Tiffany completed her internships at Georgia Regional Hospital of Atlanta and at the Atlanta VA Medical Center in the Geriatric Clinic. She has also worked in home health, the Atlanta VA Homeless Program and Home Hospice.

Research and Data

Kathryn Black, MSPH, Research Data/Senior Informatics Specialist



Kathryn has a background in clinical and translational research in psychiatry. As the data analyst, she is responsible for timely and accurate data collection and reporting to support patient care and strategic decision making. Kathryn earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a Master of Science in Public Health from Emory University.

Luke Ellmaker, BA, Research Interviewer



Luke received his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from North Carolina State University. Before being a part of EHVP, Luke performed research with the Department of Psychology in the North Carolina State University Mindset Lab. In the lab, Luke worked as a research assistant and helped process and develop research about Trauma-Informed Courtrooms. Luke now works at EHVP as a research interviewer.

Syreese Fuller, BS, Lead Clinical Research Coordinator



Syreese Fuller is responsible for the management, coordination and regulatory compliance of research projects. Syreese earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Tuskegee University. She has a keen interest in health-related research with over six years of experience in clinical and behavioral research at various institutions such as Emory University Hospital Midtown and Grady Memorial Hospital.

Angel-Saphire, BS, Research Specialist



Angel-Saphire earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a concentration in Mental Health from Spelman College, graduating summa cum laude. She has contributed to research at institutions including Georgia State University, the University of Michigan, and UC Irvine, with a focus on Black maternal health, racial stress, mental health, and coping techniques. Angel now happily serves as a Research Specialist for EHVP.

Sophia Pope, Research Interviewer



Sophia is pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a minor in Data Science at Kennesaw State University. She aspires to make a meaningful contribution to research on PTSD and related mental health conditions in her capacity as a Research Interviewer for EHVP.

Kaylee Santiago, BA, Research Interviewer



Kaylee received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from California State University, Fullerton, where she was a Research Assistant for the Social Science Research Center. As a Research Interviewer at EHVP, Kaylee aspires to contribute to research that will ultimately improve the quality of care and outcomes for those with PTSD and other related disorders.

Bonnie Seifert, BS, Data Analyst



Bonnie maintains and ensures the quality of data as well as the integrity of the data systems that support EHVP. She graduated with honors from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and plans to attend graduate school to pursue her passion for neuropsychology and PTSD research.

Administrative

Chemedria Ballard, BS, Patient Care Coordinator



Chemedria is a caring, effective and compassionate front desk attendant. Prior to EHVP, she studied health information technology at Devry University. She's committed to helping veterans and feels this program is the best place to start.

Phillip Colon, BS, Coordinator of Business Services



Phillip handles all patient care coordination for the warriors. Phillip served in the Army from 2006 to 2010, with a deployment to Iraq. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in History and Sociology from Georgia State University.

Ella Edge, MA, Marketing and Communications Manager



Ella Edge received her Master of Arts in Professional Writing from Kennesaw State University. Before coming to EHVP in 2019, Ella worked as a communications coordinator at the Cherokee Office of Economic Development and helped make Cherokee County a camera-ready destination. As the marketing and communications manager, Ella shares EHVP's innovative research and world-class care with the military community.

Vickie Howard, BS, Senior Administrative Assistant



Vickie provides administrative support to the entire program. Before joining EHVP in July 2019, Vickie worked in the Department of Emergency Medicine for 15 years. During her tenure, she supported the Research, Toxicology and Ultrasound programs. Some of the duties included calendar management, purchasing card reconciliation, travel management, employee orientation, space reservations and budget expenditures. She is a graduate of Savannah State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Jim Ludlam, BA, Director of Development



Jim received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science at the University of Georgia and a Juris Doctor at the University of Georgia School of Law. Before EHVP, Jim worked as a principal gifts officer for the United Way of Greater Atlanta, a fundraising consultant for several economic development organizations and an attorney in private practice and in-house at a national voluntary health association. Jim Ludlam raises funds for the program through individual, foundation and corporate philanthropy, grants from the public and private sector and other revenue streams.

Melody Jackson, BA, Coordinator of Business Services



Melody serves as the liaison for program participants and handles their schedules and travel activities. She graduated from Alverno College in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts in Community Leadership and Development. Before joining EHVP as the coordinator of business services, Melody worked as a patient services coordinator and medical secretary for the Emory Orthopaedics & Spine Center.

Jessica Thomas, Patient Care Coordinator



Jessica studied pharmacy at Georgia Perimeter College and has been with Emory for 18 years. Before coming to EHVP, she was a senior patient coordinator for the Emory Clinic.