



NAVREF newsletter

Vision: NAVREF envisions a nation in which veterans receive the finest care based on innovative research and education.

Mission: To advance the success of the VA-affiliated research and education corporations.

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Groundbreaking Program Executed By TREAC

Veterans with PTSD face significant barriers to employment. In May 2018, Tuscaloosa Research and Education Advancement Corporation (TREAC), and its affiliated VA, Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center (TVAMC), executed an agreement to partner with Social Finance, Inc. in the Veterans CARE Pay for Success (PFS) project, to promote better employment and health outcomes for Veterans with service-connected PTSD. PFS projects are public-private partnerships that enable government to partner with high-performing service providers by tapping private investments to expand effective programs through a performance-based contract.

Under the leadership of TVAMC's Lori Davis, MD, Veterans CARE will serve 480 Veterans over three years in New York, Boston, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. TREAC and TVAMC have partnered with Veterans Education and Research Association of Northern New England, Inc. (VERANNE) and The Narrows Institute for Biomedical Research & Education, Inc. and their affiliated VAs to facilitate the delivery of Individual Placement and Support (IPS), an evidence-based approach to supported employment.



Social Finance raised \$5.1 million from five impact investors – BNP Paribas, Northern Trust, Dakota Foundation, Deutsche Bank, and Robin Hood Foundation - to fund service delivery. Outcomes will be measured and success payments will be made at four payment points. To the extent that outcomes are met and validated by the evaluator, VA, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the City of Boston, acting through the Economic Development and Industrial Corporation of Boston, and New York City partners will collectively make up to \$6 million in outcomes payments. If the highest level of outcomes is not met, payments to investors may be reduced, and if no outcomes are achieved investors could face full losses.

The VA Center for Innovation, together with the Corporation for National and Community Service's Social Innovation Fund, awarded \$3 million in competitive funding to serve as outcomes payments for the project. TVAMC, through TREAC, is paid for the services it has agreed to provide as part of the project; its payments are not contingent on outcomes, although it will be held to certain quality program and enrollment requirements. Project partners will receive data-driven feedback on participant outcomes to inform public policy and program design broadly applicable to future services.

The Veterans CARE project is the first PFS project in the United States to focus on improving outcomes for Veterans, and the first multistate project of its kind.

Click here to see a video about the project: <https://youtu.be/crMfYSYwPbg>