

VOLUME X
SENIOR REVIEW GROUP (SRG)
THEMES/TRENDS and/or LESSONS LEARNED
September 2010 SRGS

1. Theme: “Accountability”

- Leaders stay engaged; accountability is a part of this process.
- Down time is not only the Soldier’s personal time and responsibility; but, it is also the unit’s concern.
- Soldiers must be accountable to “self” and chain of command.
- When your Soldier is “off-duty” accountability is just as important – brief your Soldier on the process as it relates to their unit and their accountability to the unit.

2. Theme: Soldier’s suicide a possibility; don’t take that chance

- Be a “true” friend; report the intent .
- Soldiers on suicide watch should not be stigmatized...find a location where the Soldier is not visible.
- Leaders educate yourself on your Soldier’s family history; there may be an indicator that you’re not aware of.
- Adjust procedure as necessary; a procedure in place does not mean it cannot be changed and/or modified to help save a Soldier.

3. Theme: “Issues” and the “High Risk” Soldier

- Review your policy; evaluate the process that grants leave to high-risk Soldiers.
- Ongoing counseling is required for high risk Soldiers; leaders monitor this requirement and provide counseling as needed.
- Despite your initial impression of a Soldier; it is critical, when appropriate, to aggressively monitor all Soldiers; especially WTU Soldier.
- Focus on the high risk behavior associated with the Soldier; not just the death but the risky behavior that can lead to a Soldier’s death.
- Identify your Soldier; they may or may not be at risk however, encourage them to talk, not only to you as the leader but, to fellow Soldiers.

- Provide 1st line Supervisors with the appropriate tools – these tools can facilitate Supervisors with their identification of “high risk” Soldiers.

- Experiencing Limited success when helping your “high risk” Soldier ...leadership may be the true issue.

4. Theme: Valuable Communication

- Communication breakdown continues to be an issue between leaders and BH providers; important that Soldiers standards include open communication.

- Communicate with Soldiers; they must identify with the term “resilience”.

- New Soldiers - identify and find out about the Soldier’s life as soon as the Soldier Arrives.

- Continual communication helps toward preparation of the unpredictable.

5. Theme: Young Leaders - roles and responsibilities

- Junior leaders must educate themselves on the difference of standard versus up-tempo garrison experience.

- Energize your junior leaders; never assume they’ve master what senior leaders leaders have already mastered.

6. Theme: Importance of “Positive” Relationships

- Leaders talk to your Soldiers; maintain a positive relationship; if not, you may miss out on the importance in your Soldiers lives.

- Smaller states have developed tools exhibiting successful results; identify those tools and claim that success...bring those numbers down.

- Engage the local VA in your state; this can’t be minimal process; there must be a connection and involvement that benefits all Soldiers.