

CAVCON 2026 Agenda

POST TRAUMATIC GROWTH: Beyond Physical and Hidden Disabilities

September 14-15, 2026 • Sioux Falls Convention Center

MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 14

Time	Session
8:45–9:00	Welcome Jill Baker, MSA, MSW, CSW
9:00–10:15	When the Caregiver Is the Whole System Michael Bankowski, BS
10:30–11:45	MENTAL HEALTH Accelerated Resolution Therapy Jade Ronk, MSW
10:30–11:45	RURAL CHALLENGES Hearing Loss Among Veterans Katie Peterson, BS
10:30–11:45	MILITARY FAMILIES I Know a Guy Machelle Kocer, MSW, CSW-PIP
1:00–2:15	Growing Forward: The SOAR Mindset Jonathan Pride, MA, CSSBB
2:30–3:45	MENTAL HEALTH Uniting for Suicide Postvention Jody Smith, CSW-PIP
2:30–3:45	RURAL CHALLENGES Closing Rural Veteran Care Gaps Ben May, BA
2:30–3:45	MILITARY FAMILIES The Grief Journey Mike Keller, MA
4:00–5:15	From Combat to Community Andrea Grannum-Mosley, EdD/MEd Facilitator: Kyla Peterson

TUESDAY • SEPTEMBER 15

Time	Session
7:00–8:00	Registration & Networking
8:00–8:15	Welcome Jill Baker, MSA, MSW, CSW
8:15–9:30	Beyond Thank You for Your Service Jonathan Theel, MS
9:45–11:00	MENTAL HEALTH Behavioral Health System Overview Andrea Heronimus, BS & Jordan Mouna, BS
9:45–11:00	RURAL CHALLENGES Journey of Veterans Map Jade Ronk, MSW
9:45–11:00	MILITARY FAMILIES Soldier-to-Civilian Transition Nancy Thum-Thomas, RN
11:15–12:30	Post-Traumatic Growth and Whole-Person Support Panel Moderator: Jill Baker Panelists: Jade Ronk & Jonathan Pride
12:30–12:45	Closing Remarks

CAV Conference 2026 - Post-Traumatic Growth – Beyond Physical & Hidden Disabilities

09/14/2026 at 07:30 AM to 09/15/2026 at 12:45 PM

Live Activity

Purpose:

This is a two-day professional development event designed to empower service providers to better support military families and veterans, especially in rural communities. This conference will bring together social workers, healthcare providers, educators, and nonprofit leaders to share best practices, build collaborative networks, and enhance access to vital resources for military-connected people.

Objectives:

- 1 Describe the concept of post-traumatic growth and its relevance to veterans and military families.
- 2 Differentiate between trauma recovery and growth-oriented approaches across physical, psychological, and social domains.
- 3 Identify and apply evidence-based interventions (e.g., Accelerated Resolution Therapy, suicide postvention practices) to support veterans experiencing trauma and loss.
- 4 Recognize signs of complicated reintegration and mental health challenges among veterans and caregivers
- 5 Examine barriers to care in rural communities and identify practical strategies to close gaps in access for veterans
- 6 Navigate state and local behavioral health systems to improve referrals and coordination of care.
- 7 Analyze the role of caregivers as part of the veteran support system and integrate tools/resources to support family-centered care.
- 8 Recognize the impact of trauma and grief on military families and incorporate resilience-building strategies.
- 9 Identify key stakeholders and leverage partnerships (including community health workers, local organizations, and coalitions) to enhance veteran support systems.
- 10 Develop strategies to sustain collaborative efforts in rural and community-based settings.
- 11 Explore the role of employment, purpose, and community connection in fostering resilience and long-term recovery.
- 12 Integrate holistic, whole-person approaches into veteran care and support programs.
- 13 Describe the evolving needs of veterans transitioning from military to civilian life.
- 14 Apply strategies to support successful reintegration across healthcare, employment, and social systems.
- 15 Demonstrate increased competence in working with veterans through interprofessional collaboration and shared learning.
- 16 Identify opportunities to integrate conference learning into practice settings to improve outcomes for veterans and their families.
- 17 Identify roles of interprofessional team members (e.g., community health workers, behavioral health providers, caregivers) in supporting veterans.
- 18 Apply whole-person, culturally responsive approaches to support veterans' recovery, reintegration, and wellbeing.

Target Audience:

Physician, Nurse - RN, Social Worker, Counselor / Therapist, Nurse -LPN/LVN

For successful completion:

- Attend education
- Complete evaluation

REMINDER

Attendance can be texted up to 24 hours after the activity

Accreditation & Credit Designation:

Accreditation



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Avera and CAV. Avera is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Continuing Education Credit Designation(s)



IPCE CREDIT™

IPCE (Team-based): This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 10.00 IPCE credit(s) for learning and change.

Medicine CME: Avera designates this live activity for a maximum of 10.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn credit toward the CME of the American Board of Surgery's Continuous Certification program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABS credit.

Nurse CE: Avera designates this activity for a maximum of 10.00 ANCC contact hour(s). Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



Social Work: As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Avera is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. Regulatory boards are the final authority on courses accepted for continuing education credit. Social workers completing this course receive 10.00 Cultural Competency continuing education credit(s).

Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapy (SD Board of Examiners): Avera is a recognized provider of continuing education, for all counseling related content, for the South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists. Social Workers will receive 10.00 continuing education clock hour(s) for participating in this course.

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Disclosure Policy:

Due to the regulations required for CE credits, all conflicts of interest that persons in a position to control or influence the education must be fully disclosed to participants. In observance of this requirement, we are providing the following disclosure information: all relevant financial relationships disclosed below have been mitigated.

Name of individual	Individual's role in activity	Nature of Relationship(s) / Name of Ineligible Company(s)
Jill Baker, MSW	Content Expert - Committee Member, Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Michael Bankowski, BS	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Kelly Bass, DSW, CSW-PIP, ACS	Content Expert - Committee Member	Nothing to disclose
Kelly Boyd, MSN	Lead Planner	Nothing to disclose
Andrea Grannum-Mosley, Doctor of Education Leadership, Ed.D/ M.Ed	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Amanda Harris, BS	Committee Planning Member	Nothing to disclose
Andrea Heronimus, BS	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Mike Keller, MA, Administrator	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Machelle Kocer, MSW, CSW-PIP	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Jordan Mouna, BS	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Erin Nosal, BS	Committee Planning Member	Nothing to disclose
Kyla Peterson, MSW, CSW-PIP	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Katie Peterson, BS, Sign Language Interpreter	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Ronald Place, MD	Content Expert - Committee Member	Nothing to disclose
Jonathan Pride, MA, CSSBB	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Vonda Reed, A.S. Accounting	Committee Planning Member	Nothing to disclose
Jade Ronk, MSW	Committee Planning Member, Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Jody Smith, CSW-PIP, CSW-PIP 5073	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Jonathan Theel, MS	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Nancy Thum-Thomas, RN	Faculty	Nothing to disclose
Ben Tiensvold, BA	Faculty	Nothing to disclose

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