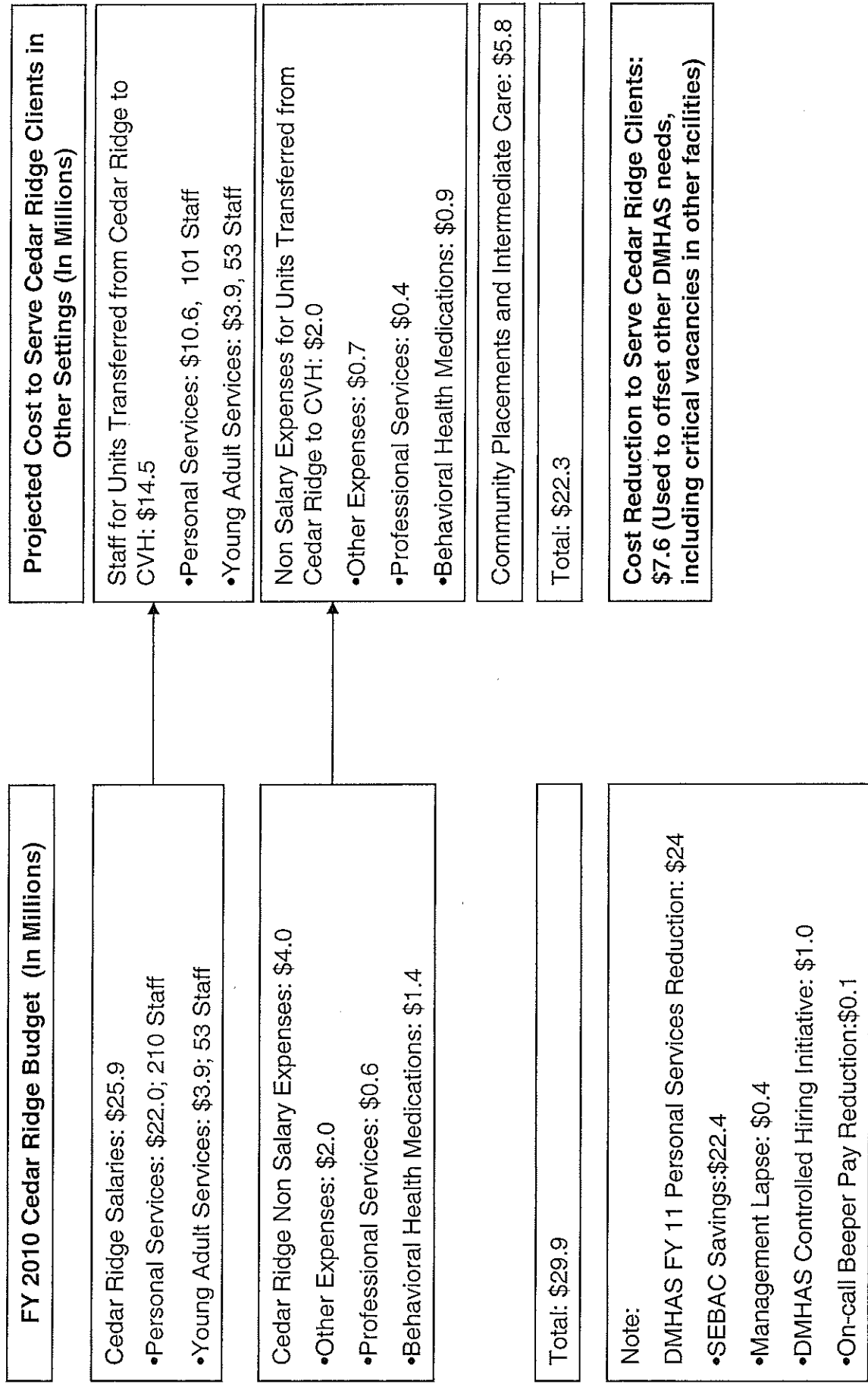


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 2/24/2010 Health and Hospital
 Appropriations Subcommittee
 Work Session

Cedar Ridge Closure Expenditure Flow



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What distinguishes the Connecticut Military Support Program (MSP) from other programs such as TRICARE?

- **MSP is available to Service Members and their families throughout the deployment cycle – 365 days a year** - whereas TRICARE eligibility ends 180 days following a Service Member’s de-mobilization from active duty
- **MSP services are completely confidential**, whereas TRICARE must report the Service Member’s treatment information to the Dept of Defense upon request
- **MSP services are available to Service Members and their families in the communities where they live**. Over 350 licensed clinicians, located throughout the state, are now members of the MSP panel, whereas TRICARE’s footprint in the state is much smaller
- **MSP provides comprehensive follow-up services through ongoing community case management**
- **MSP staff work closely with the federal and state Depts of Veterans Affairs and the Vet Center system**. MSP refers individuals needing complex care to VA. Conversely, VA and the Vet Center routinely refer family members to MSP
- **MSP provides transportation services to Service Members and their families in the form of livery services and gas cards to assure continuity of care.**

The Connecticut Military Support Program

March 2007 to December 31, 2009

Total Served:		1,525
Military Members:	62%	
Family Members:	38%	
Received Outpatient Counseling:		707
Received Community Case Management:		1,311
Received assistance in accessing VA complex care*:		293
Received transportation assistance:		504

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*Complex care pertains to treatment needs that require ongoing, long-term and/or comprehensive care.

Focus of MSP Behavioral Health services Provided

Substance Abuse Treatment:	10%
Marriage & Family Counseling:	13%
Depression:	39%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD):	21%
Anxiety:	14%
Other:	3%

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Connecticut Military Support Program

Program Description:

The Connecticut Military Support Program (MSP) was established by the General Assembly (Section 17a-453d). Since 2007, MSP has provided outpatient counseling services through a statewide panel of 300 licensed clinicians whose services are accessed through a 24/7 Call Center. In addition to outpatient counseling, MSP provides outreach; intensive case management; information, referral and advocacy; and transportation services (livery and gas cards) to reserve component service members and their families. MSP is an active member of the Connecticut OEF/IF Coordinating Committee, working collaboratively with the federal and state departments of veterans affairs and the Connecticut Military Department.

MSP provides extensive outpatient clinical services to veterans served by the Connecticut Veterans Jail Diversion and Trauma Recovery Program. Additionally, MSP assures that each justice-involved veteran receives timely access to appropriate services through the federal VA system, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Vet Center system and the state Department of Veterans Affairs.

In March 2009, the MSP Clinician Embed Initiative was established in partnership with the Adjutant General, Major General Thaddeus Martin. Today, twenty-four MSP clinicians serve as Behavioral Health Advocates within Guard Units affected by deployment(s) in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. These embedded clinicians provide substantive psycho-education to service members and their families and serve as key points of contact for mental health and addictions services.

Connecticut is unique in that no other state in the country provides free, statewide counseling services to its Citizen Soldiers and their families. Also, no other state has established a program that embeds civilian clinicians within National Guard Unit's at the Company level.

MSP Funding:

Funding for the program came from monies set-aside during the sale of the state-owned Fairfield Hills Hospital in Newtown, CT. A total of \$1.4 million was set aside for OEF/OIF activities, of which \$530,000 was directed to researchers at Yale University to study the needs of OEF/OIF Soldiers, and \$891,000 to the Military Support Program. **The allocation is *one-time funding* and is non-lapsing.**

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