

Robert Koffman, MD, MPH
U.S. Navy Medical Officer (Ret.)
Served in Desert Storm (1990/1991); Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003); and Operating Enduring Freedom (2009/2010)

Retired Navy Captain Robert Koffman, MD, MPH, is the Senior Medical Advisor for Warrior Canine Connection and a PREVENTS Ambassador, now serving Veterans in a Suicide Prevention effort under Executive Order 13861 (The President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide).

Capping an acclaimed 30-year career as a naval medical officer, psychiatrist and preventive medicine physician, Koffman's terminal assignment was the Chief of Clinical Operations at the premiere National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) aboard the Walter Reed campus in Bethesda, Maryland. Koffman, lauded for his work in integrative medical practices, had the unprecedented opportunity to craft the nation's renown, evidenced-based, holistic recovery program for combat wounded veterans. A board certified psychiatrist, he obtained his doctorate from the University of Santo Tomas, and his Master of Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Among his many clinical, operational, and leadership positions, he was appointed as the Navy's first head of Combat and Operational Stress Control COSC). While serving in this capacity, he also advised the Navy Surgeon as Navy Medicine's inaugural Director for Psychological Health where, during the ramp-up of war efforts for the "hidden wounds of war", Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and mild Traumatic Brain Injury, he oversaw the management of over \$100 million in military campaigns and proposals for tackling the burgeoning problem of psychological health issues and blasted related TBI. Koffman was the former Navy lead on the blue ribbon panel authoring the DoD/VA Acute Stress Disorder (ASD) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Clinical Practice Guideline.

Prior to his arrival to NICoE, he served as a Navy collaborator and investigator to the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, where he continues to conduct research as a recognized name in military medicine and operational psychiatry. A subject matter expert in deployment health, Koffman has dedicated himself to improving the delivery of mental health care in operational settings. Deploying to Desert Storm, Operational Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, he has provided behavioral health care services for service members in a multitude of maritime, combat, and peace-keeping operations. Koffman is a passionate advocate for increasing access of non-stigmatizing psychological services.

Following a 2010 deployment to Afghanistan where he headed up the first naval medical Behavioral Health Needs Health Assessment Team, Koffman and his Mobile Care Team (also a concept of expeditionary healthcare he developed) conducted the first battlefield mental health assessment of more than a thousand combat-deployed Sailors.

Highly militarily decorated, among his most treasured awards, Koffman is the 2013 recipient of the prestigious USSOCOM Patriot Award for significant and enduring support for USSOCOM's wounded warriors and their families. Koffman was appointed to the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs in March 2017 and served as Vice-Chair of the Commission from July 2020 to April 2024.