# Medicaid and the Military L. Christopher Plein, Ph.D.

West Funice Kennedy Shriver National Institute
West Foundation

PRESENT

University A CONFERENCE ON



MILITARY CONNECTED CHILDREN
WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS
AND THEIR FAMILIES

### ADMFs, Special Needs and Medicaid

 Some families turn to Medicaid for supplemental services and coverage

 Structurally, Medicaid is ill-equipped to respond to ADMF needs

 Medicaid may be a crucial resource for those leaving the military.

#### **Barriers**

 Medicaid is highly variable across the states in terms of modes of delivery, optional services, and management

 Within any state, Medicaid is mostly likely under budgetary stress and politically contentious.

#### **Education and Awareness**

 Military families need to know about health care options both in and outside the military health system

 DOD support personnel can play a major role as a resource.

## Policy Needs and Development

 CA, KS, and WA are exploring Medicaid program innovations to help families nearing separation from the service

 ACA changes the landscape of Medicaid through eligibility expansion and the further promotion of HCBS.

## Policy Needs and Development

 There is an ongoing need for data sharing and policy coordination at the federal level

The states have a role to play as well.