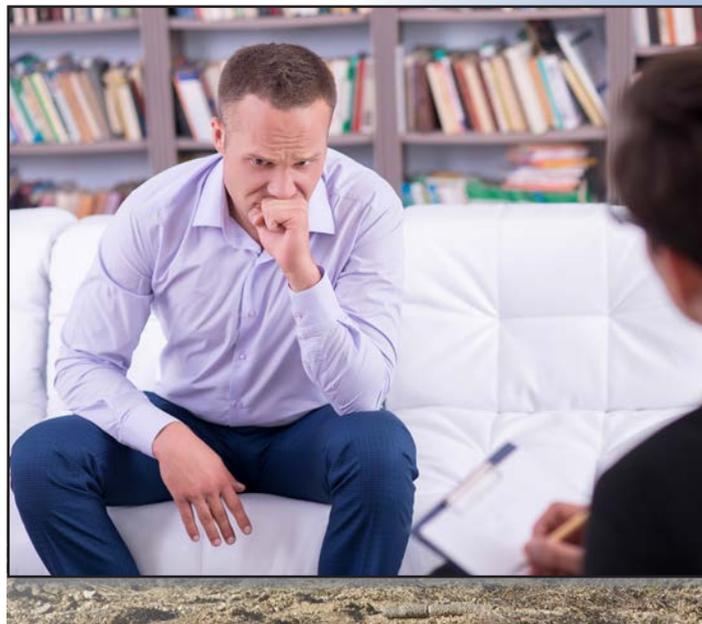## Addressing Mental Health Needs: The Brattleboro Retreat

The Brattleboro Retreat is a not-for-profit, regional specialty mental health and addictions treatment center in southern Vermont that was founded in 1834. The Retreat provides a full range of diagnostic and treatment services for patients of all ages and their families.

Nationally recognized as a leader in the field, the Brattleboro Retreat offers a high-quality, individualized, comprehensive continuum of care including inpatient programs for children, adolescents and adults; partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient services for adults; residential programs for children & adolescents; and outpatient treatment for people of all ages.

Like all health industry leaders specializing in caring for Veterans, the partners of The JMG Group LLC recognize the national challenge of providing adequately for the mental health needs of Veterans, particularly those with health issues related to combat service. Because of social stigma and misunderstanding, mental health care needs often go unmet; many times with tragic consequences for the Veteran, for their loved ones, and for the communities in which they live.

The JMG Group LLC worked with the Brattleboro Retreat in registering their practices to enable them to provide services under the Veterans Choice program. This increases access to the Retreats' Uniformed Services Program, a specialized trauma and addiction treatment program for Law Enforcement, Fire, Military, Veterans, EMTs, and Corrections Personnel; and the pool of practitioners available for Veterans eligible for treatment for mental health and addiction disorders.

The Retreat's efforts help to increase access, reducing wait times for appointments and addressing all the problems associated with not treating mental health issues. The JMG Group LLC has been a key partner in expanding the network of Choice participating providers, and improving communication and coordination between the Brattleboro Retreat and Health Net, the servicing TPA.