

### Information Paper

**Topic:** “Wounded Warrior and Family-Caregiver Support: DoD-VA-Community Collaborations”

**When:** Wednesday, November 9, 2011 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM EDT

**Where:** 901 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005 at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

**Warrior-Family Roundtable (WFR) Overview.** The Roundtable extends the groundbreaking exchanges between key leaders in Congress, Departments of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Affairs (VA), and other governmental and non-governmental agencies that have occurred since 2007 when MOAA held its first wounded warrior Defense Forum Washington. Discussions address specific topics related to psychological-health and well-being of the force, and seamless transition in order to enhance communication in the public- and private-sector and to generate new insights on emergent issues.

**September 26, 2011, Defense Forum Washington Excerpts:** *“This is a very vulnerable population—we can’t afford to make any mistakes...It takes leadership, commitment and accountability...DoD-VA-government can’t do it alone—they must reach out to communities for help.”*

**Current Issues.** DoD and VA have implemented a number of programs and services as a result of the last 10 years of war to support our troops, veterans and their families. This support includes a significant amount of effort and resources to help caregivers and family members care for our most severely wounded, ill and injured service members and disabled veterans. Additionally, DoD and VA have realized the value of leveraging relationships outside their organizations to deliver programs and services, but recognize more must be done to effectively meet the needs of this population when and where they need it.

**Roundtable Purpose.** In November, we honor our Nation’s veterans and celebrate National Family Caregiver Month and National Military Family Month. Today’s Roundtable provides a venue for honoring the service and sacrifices endured by our troops, our wounded and disabled and those loved ones who support them day in and day out.

Roundtable attendees will collectively engage in discussions that will help improve the quality of life our warriors and their families, particularly our wounded warriors and family-caregivers by:

- Becoming more informed of the programs and services available through the DoD, VA and their partnerships;
- Asking questions and offering feedback to improve programs and services; and
- Identifying opportunities to promote programs and services using organizational and individual networks to leverage DoD, VA and partnership efforts.

#### **Discussion Questions for Presenters & Attendees to Explore:**

**Panel: “DoD-VA-Community Family-Caregiver Support and Collaboration Efforts”**

- What are the DoD and VA programs which provide assistance and services for family-caregivers (e.g., office titles, organizational structure, roles/responsibilities, and how do the agencies collaborate/coordinate care)?
- What are the similarities and differences between DoD’s Special Compensation for Assistance With Activities of Daily Living and Recovery Coordination Programs and VA’s Comprehensive Primary Family Caregiver and Federal Recovery Coordination Programs?
- How can individuals and organizations assist VA, DoD and their partners to promote their efforts and identify other opportunities to improve upon programs and services?

**Panel: “Open Floor Discussion”**

- How have the Roundtables helped you with your efforts to support warriors-families?
- How would you improve the Roundtable dialog and what topics would be of interest to you for future Roundtables?

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