

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COLLABORATION IN SUPPORT OF SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES

DoD/USDA FAMILY RESILIENCE CONFERENCE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — 27 APRIL 2011

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Winkel, N. & Melvin, C. (April 2011). *Building sustainable collaboration in support of service members, veterans & their families.*Workshop presented at 2011 DoD/USDA Family Resilience Conference, Chicago, IL.



Arizona Coalition for Military Families

The Arizona Coalition for Military Families is a public/private partnership focused on building Arizona's capacity to serve and support all service members, veterans, their families and communities.

Every service member, veteran and family member connected to the right program, service and/or benefit at the right time.



Arizona's Military/Veteran Population



ACTIVE DUTY - 20,000

GUARD/RESERVE - 13,000

VETERANS - +/- 600,000

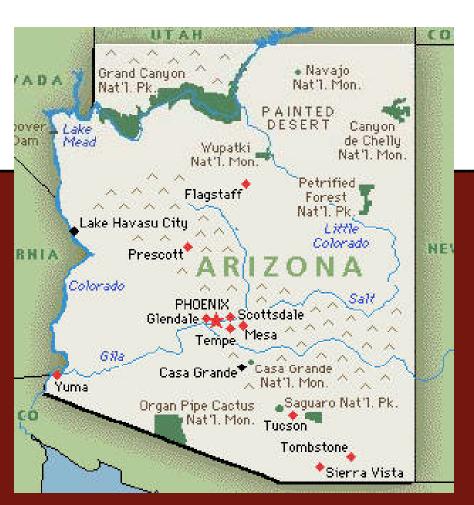
-10% of Arizona's population

-High concentration of OEF/OIF/OND veterans

Plus all of their families & communities

Formation of ACMF: Based on need





What was the #1 need identified?

Coordination & Collaboration

Across sectors: Military, Government,
 Community

Across population: Active Duty, Guard, Reserve,
 Veterans, Families, Communities

 Across areas of focus/need: health, financial, legal, education, employment, etc.

Responding to a Statewide Need

Community Need for Coordination & Collaboration



Government & Community Partners

Fulfilling a Mandate

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Joint Family Support
Assistance Program (JFSAP)



Arizona National Guard
JOINT Family
Programs Office





A public/private partnership & Arizona's Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee (ISFAC)





What we didn't want to do with our collaboration...

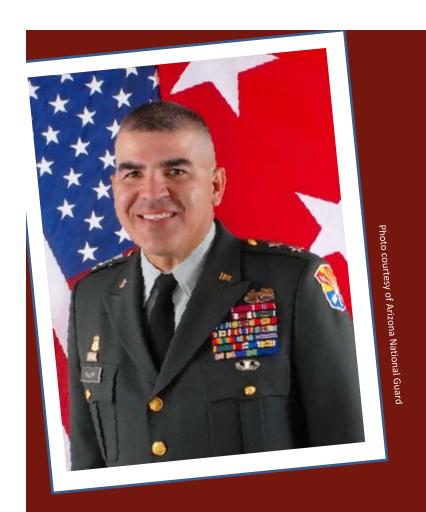
- Create a program or entity without a specific purpose and function.
- Have shared ownership of the facilitation function.
- Duplicate what already existed.
- Try to "take over the world."
- Over-promise/under-deliver.

August 19, 2009



Photo courtesy of Arizona National Guard

Official launch of the Arizona Coalition for Military Families



"The Arizona National Guard's top priority is to take care of our military members. The ACMF will provide a great way as a resource to all of Arizona's military communities. The intent of the ACMF is to be in charge of nothing, but facilitate everything."



Maj. General Hugo E. Salazar

The Adjutant General



Coalition Areas of Focus

Statewide coordination and collaboration

Regional community capacity building

Community education & training

Strategic partnership

Participation in National Efforts and Initiatives:

- SAMHSA Veterans Policy Academy
- Roundtable on best practices for state-level community collaboration hosted by White House National Security Staff and the Office of the Secretary of Defense
- Employment Roundtable with Admiral Michael Mullen
- Invited to a Roundtable hosted by Army Community Covenant Office



Community Engagement

MENTAL HEALTH/ SUBSTANCE ABUSE

MILITARY
O(ACTIVE DUTY, GUARD,
RESERVE, VETERANS)

COMMUNITY-BASED
PARTNERS &
VETERAN SERVICE
ORGANIZATIONS

EDUCATION
(ELEMENTARY,
SECONDARY,
HIGHER EDUCATION)

BUSINESS/ EMPLOYERS

COALITION PARTNERS

The Arizona Coalition for Military Families is a public/private partnership encompassing the military, government & all sectors of the community in support of service members, veterans, their families & communities throughout Arizona.

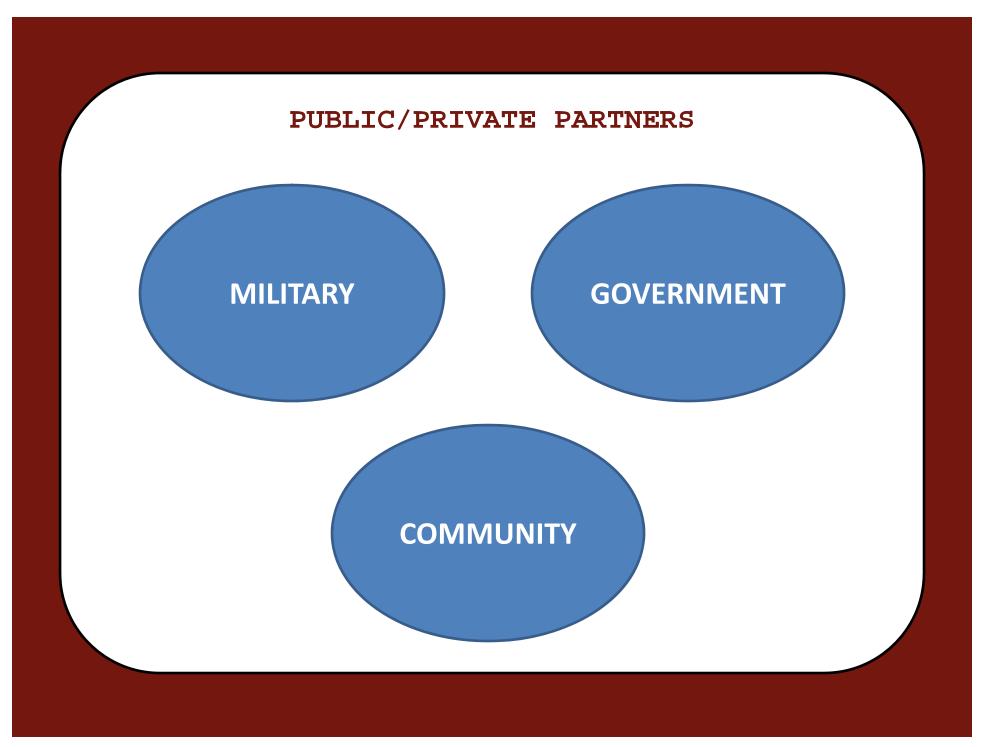
CHILD & FAMILY
O SERVICES/
PREVENTION

HEALTHCARE
O PROVIDERS/
COMMUNITY HEALTH

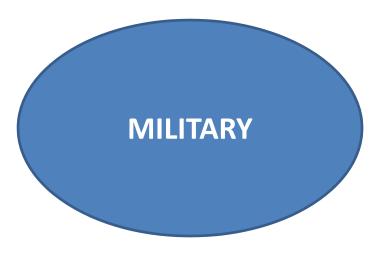
LEGAL & LAW ENFORCEMENT

GOVERNMENT
O (FEDERAL, STATE,
LOCAL, TRIBAL)

FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

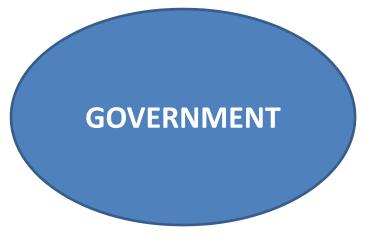


PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERS



- -Arizona National Guard, under the leadership of Major General Hugo E. Salazar, The Adjutant General for the State of Arizona.
- -ACMF Armed Forces Advisory
 Committee, including representatives of all military components in the state
 (Active, Guard & Reserve).
- -TriWest Healthcare Alliance, which is headquartered in Phoenix and administers the TRICARE benefit in Arizona.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERS



- -VA Health Care Systems & Regional Benefits Office
- -State agencies, including the **Arizona Department of Veterans' Services** and **Arizona Department of Health Services**.
- -Governor's Office for Children, Youth & Families, Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries.
- -Local government agencies e.g. **Phoenix Fire Department.**

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERS



- -Greater Valley Area Health Education Center (administrative support and continuing education credits for training).
- -Regional Behavioral Health Authorities
- Magellan of Arizona and CPSA.
- -Southern Arizona Red Cross Service to Armed Forces program (initiatives, events and via the Americorps program).
- **-St. Luke's Health Initiatives** funds a systems-change project focused on the military and veteran population.

OVERALL APPROACH

MILITARY GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY

- -Engage partners in the public and private sector in a shared goal and focus.
- -Build awareness, engage, equip.
- -Leverage and coordinate existing human, organizational and technology assets and resources to support capacity-building activities.
- -Strategically place new assets and resources to strengthen overall effort and support collaboration and coordination of existing resources.



The Public/Private Partnership Model

- Natural point of engagement for both public and private sector partners.
- "Suspended in mid-air" not tied to any one organization, administration or individual.
- Housed in the private sector with an established nonprofit organization as fiscal agent and administrator.
- A membership process will be developed based upon vetting criteria that come from the ACMF *Guidelines for Care* project.

ACMF STRUCTURE

PARTNERS

MILITARY

GOVERNMENT

COMMUNITY

Public and private sector organizations are the key partners in the Coalition and all capacity-building activities (most activities include representatives of all three sectors).

ACMF
Public/Private
Partnership

ACMF components provide support and structure for facilitating cross-sector coordination and collaboration.

ACMF COMPONENTS

ACMF Implementation Team

ACMF Advisory Board

(under development)

ACMF Armed Forces Advisory Committee

FUNDING

Incubated in the National Guard via JFSAP.

Grants & Sponsorship – As a program managed by a nonprofit organization, ACMF is eligible to apply for grants and to solicit sponsorship funding. Examples:

- Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (state agency)
- TriWest Healthcare Alliance (private corporation)
- St. Luke's Health Initiatives (public foundation)
- Greater Valley Area Health Education Center (nonprofit program)
- Scottsdale Healthcare (nonprofit hospital)

FUNDING

Registration Fees & Revenue – Some of the activities of the Coalition, such as training and professional development, are self-funded via registration fees.

In-Kind – A significant portion of the resources for ACMF activities comes in the form of in-kind support from public and private sector partners whose interests and focus align with the work of the Coalition. Examples of in-kind support:

Arizona National Guard: Personnel time (JFSAP, JFPO, Yellow Ribbon), use of facilities

Southern Arizona Red Cross: Americorps volunteer, use of facilities

Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries: SMEs

STAFFING - IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Program Consultant

Community Liaison

JFSAP Military & Family Life Consultants

ACMF Americorps Volunteer

Key Personnel from ACMF partners in the military, government & community

EXAMPLES OF PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

Military/Veteran Employment & Education Initiative

COMPONENTS:

Strategic planning & partner engagement

Outreach & Training

Technology

Employment Resource Center



Arizona Military/Veteran Employment & Education Initiative

FOCUS on unemployment, underemployment and higher education.

COORDINATE efforts in the public and private sector (military, government, community) and streamline system navigation.

REACH service members, veterans & family members via different mediums (in-person, print, online).

LEVERAGE human, organizational and technology resources to connect employees to employers and students to higher education.

EQUIP service members, veterans & family members and employers/educational institutions for success.

Employment Resource Center



















ARIZONA MILITARY/VETERAN EMPLOYMENT PORTAL

For all Service Members, Veterans & Their Family Members



www.ArizonaCoalition.org/Employment

PROVIDED IN PARTNERSHIP BY:













What is the Military/Veteran Employment Portal?

- -Military Skills Translator (by branch)
- -Resume builder
- -Online document storage
- -Customized job portal based on military/civilian skills!

A free service provided to all service members, veterans & their family members!

Select Branch of Service, Grade/Rank, MOS & Specialties

Military Skills Translator (Patent Pending)

Click on the symbol for your service branch to get started.

















Military Skills Translator (Patent Pending)



Use the Translator to convert your military training to equivalent civilian skills. You need to complete the fol steps to create a comprehensive skills profile for civilian employers:

- 1. Select your grade/rank below, then click "continue."
- 2. should read: All available specialties will be displayed. Select all specialties that apply.
- 3. The civilian skills associated with your specialties will be presented for your use. Select all that apply.
- 4. After completing these steps, you may optionally add more civilian skills using our civilian dictionary.

After your skills definition is completed you will have the option of attaching a resume and other documental use by potential employers.

Select Your Grade/Rank

USMC Enlisted: 0 E1 © E3 @ E4 0 E6 @ E7 © E-8 MSG ● E-8 1SG ● E-9 MGySqt ● E-9 SGM ● E-9 SMMC CW01 CW02

CW05

© CW03 © CW04



USMC Officer:

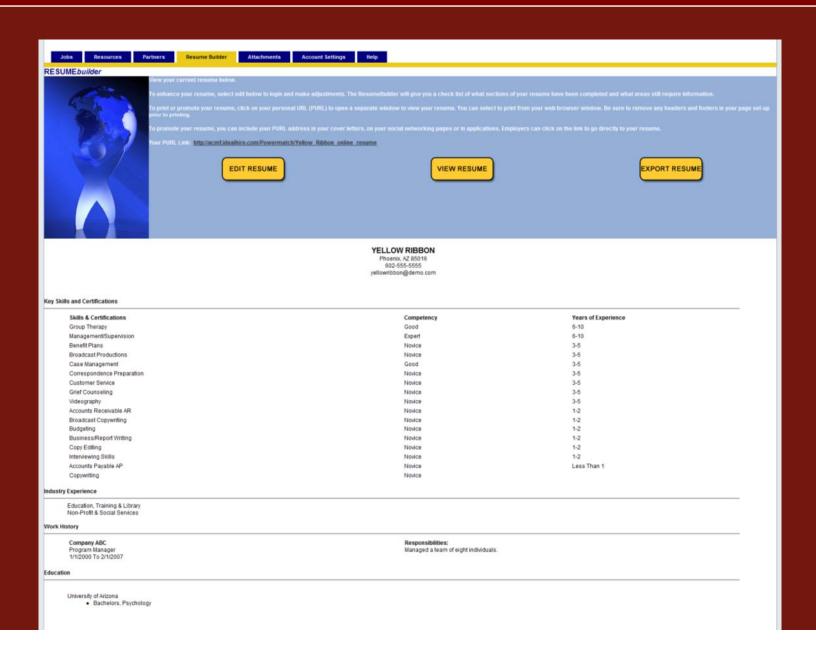
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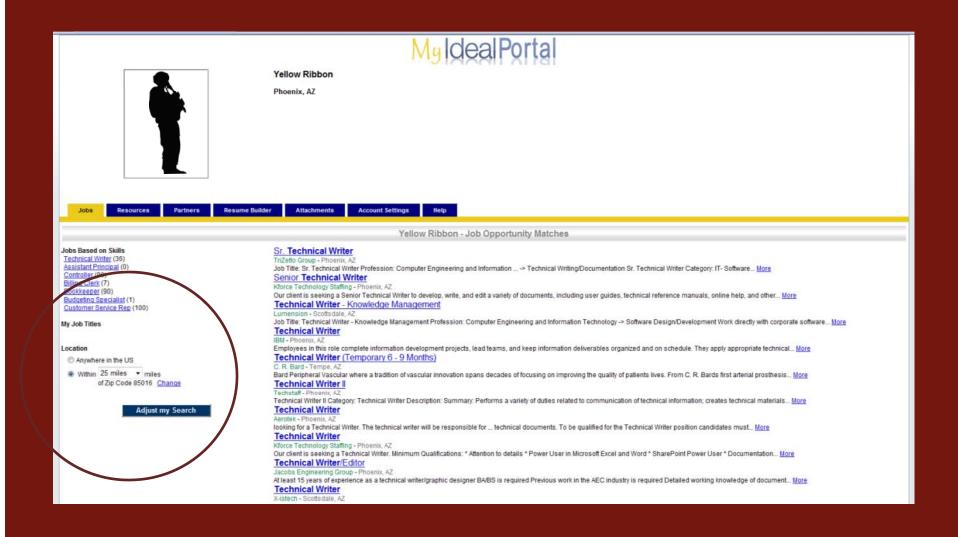
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View, Edit and/or Export Resume



Customized Job Portal



EXAMPLES OF PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

- -The only statewide convening in Arizona focused on issues that affect the military and veteran population for military, government & community partners.
- -Event planning and execution is staffed primarily by representatives of ACMF partners and volunteers. ACMF provides a lead coordinator for the event.
- -There is a registration fee for participation (scholarships are available). Continuing Education Units are provided for professionals.
- -Public and private sector organizations participate as sponsors and exhibitors.

June 7 & 8 - Phoenix

SYMPOSIUM PLANNING PARTNERS



































"The event was well worth my time."



"It was eye-opening hearing the real-life perspectives from military personnel and family members."



EXAMPLES OF PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

Military Immersion Training

- -A 1.5 day training focused on strengthening civilians' understanding of the unique aspects of military culture.
- -60 trainees participated, representing all different sectors of our community.
- -The Arizona National Guard provided training facilities.
- -95% of participants indicated they would recommend the training to a colleague.

MILITARY IMMERSION TRAINING FEB 9-10, 2011

ARIZONA NATIONAL GUARD JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PAPAGO PARK MILITARY RESERVATION
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

EVENT PARTNERS

















Arizona Air National Guard
Arizona Army National Guard Recruiting
Arizona National Guard Drug Demand Reduction
U.S. Army Reserve 492 Civil Affairs Battalion
U.S. Naval Sea Cadets - Phoenix

Military Immersion Training Graduates











"As a civilian, I would never have had the chance to gain such an enriched, deep sense of military life, nor gained a truer understanding of the physical and mental hardships our service members face and endure in defending our country. I anticipated your training to be eye-opening, but your program far exceeded my expectations."

-Immersion Trainee



"You took the time to come into my world and better understand me and my perspective. Now I feel comfortable coming into your world when I need help."

-Member of the Cadre

PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

- -Homeless & At-Risk Veterans
- -Be Resilient Program Vet Center/Guard MOU
- -Continuing Legal Education Event Public Defenders
- -Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) Unified Arizona Veterans
- -Faith-based Outreach



YEAR 1 – Relationship building

YEAR 2 – Development of infrastructure

Organizational structure

Guidelines for Care

Funding & sustainability

YEAR 3 – Implementing systems change

Community outreach & engagement

System Navigator program



Arizona – Lessons Learned

- Identify early on what need you are fulfilling always have a purpose for your convening.
- Build credibility through successful execution.
- Engage organizations at all levels (frontline, leadership, etc).
- Focus on partnership, build relationships with champions and key stakeholders within systems.
- Do more with less.
- Keep the voice of the Service Member, Veteran & Family at the center of everything.



Coalition Communications

www.ArizonaCoalition.org info@arizonacoalition.org Monthly e-newsletter







www.ArizonaCoalition.org info@arizonacoalition.org

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