Building Alliances for Veteran Support

University of Phoenix
Office of Military and Veteran Affairs

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Introductions

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Agenda

- Organizational overview
- Challenges facing military-affiliated students
- Evaluating potential alliances
- A look at our strategic alliances
  - American Corporate Partners
  - Give an Hour
  - ScholarVets
- Questions & Discussion
Organizational Overview

University of Phoenix
Office of Military and Veteran Affairs

**Purpose:** Single, consolidated, accountable organization within the University for military-affiliated students and staff

**Mission:** Set the standard for internal and external partnerships, creating an exceptional student experience that empowers pathways to purpose

**Vision:** Become the most trusted and preferred choice for military affiliated students to achieve life, career and educational goals
Evaluating Potential Alliances

Questions to Consider

• Is the potential alliance partner aligned with our:
  • Mission and vision?
  • Diversity and inclusion policy?
  • Geographic presence?
  • Cross-functional opportunities?
• Does the alliance offering meet an identified need of military-affiliated students?
• What is required of the University?
• What is the potential reach?
• How will we operationalize the alliance offering?
Challenges Facing Military-Affiliated Students

Common Challenges

- Isolation (Military.com, 2018)
- Transition to civilian life (Military.com, 2018)
- Recovery from physical and/or mental injuries (Military.com, 2018)
- Civilian employment post-military (Orino, 2015)
- Spousal employment (Orino, 2015)
- Military families are overlooked (Orino, 2015)
Three Strategic Alliance Categories

Career Development
- American Corporate Partners

Mental Health Services
- Give an Hour

Community Engagement
- ScholarVets
American Corporate Partners

Overview
- Pairs post-9/11 veterans with professional mentors from Fortune 1,000 companies to help with career planning and development
- Offers AdvisorNet for online support with career development

Alignment
- Supports post-9/11 veterans
- Helps students/ alumni with
  - Isolation
  - Transition
  - Employment

Jessica’s Success Story
Give an Hour

Overview

• Provides free, confidential mental health care for military, veterans, families
• Network of 7,000+ licensed mental healthcare providers

Alignment

• Helps students/ alumni/ families with:
  • Mental health
  • Transition
  • Military families
ScholarVets

Overview
• Promotes student networking
• Provides social platform to connect users with employers’ information about local events and opportunities

Alignment
• Helps students/ alumni/ veteran community with:
  • Isolation
  • Transition
  • Employment
Strategic Connections

- Internal Resources (VRCs/ Campuses)
- Military-Affiliated Students and Alumni
- External Organizations (Alliances/ Veteran Organizations)
- Internal Staff and Faculty

Alliances
Questions & Discussion

Please share!

• Questions
• Ideas
• Best Practices
Thank you!
References