



# **Soldier For Life Transition Assistance Program**

28 March 2015

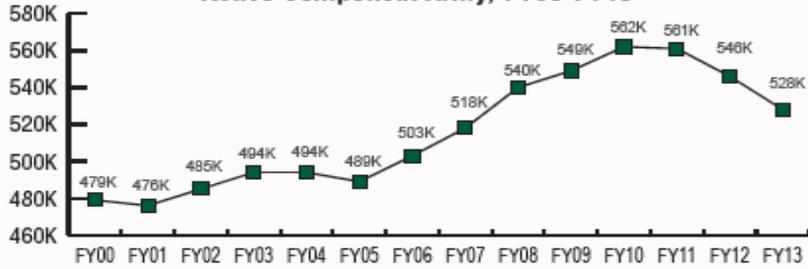
COL Kevin Gregory, Garrison Commander

Mr. Patrick W. Bean, Transition Services Manager

# Soldier For Life Background



Active Component Army, FY00-FY13



Army Campaign Plan

July 2014

Program of Record

Army Transition Regulation

June 2014

Transition Campaign Plan

May 2014

Soldier for Life Inception

July 2012



VOW (Veterans Opportunity to Work) to Hire Heroes Act 2011



November 2011

Vice Chief of Staff, Army Sends Message



November 2010

Army Career and Alumni Program/Transition US Manpower Analysis Study Group

April 2010



*"Honor the service and sacrifice of our Veterans, Retirees, Wounded Warriors and Families by preserving the highest possible quality of life, on our installations, and wherever Soldiers serve and live. Assist Soldiers transitioning out of Army service to return to civilian occupations successfully. 'Once a Soldier, Always a Soldier.'" –GEN Raymond Odierno, July 2012*

# Human Environment



## 9.5 Million (43%) of 22 Million living Veterans are Soldiers

- 918K Retired Soldiers
- 246K Surviving Spouses
- 30K Soldiers retire each year

## AC End Strength Reduction increases transition

~374K (243K AC) projected to transition in the next 3 years

### Education:

<12% of AC enlisted force has a college degree (RC slightly higher)

### Unemployment Trends:

Veteran rates generally lower than national average

18-24 year old cohort significantly higher than non-veteran peers

Demographic	FY12	FY13	FY14
National Average	7.8	7.4	6.4
All Veterans	7.0	6.6	5.7
18-24 Vets	20.4	21.4	13.5

### Veteran Homelessness:

62K average daily Homeless Veterans - 2012

57K average daily Homeless Veterans - 2013



### Veteran Suicide: 22 per day

Veterans age 18-24

- 2009 – 46 per 100K
- 2011 – 80 per 100K
- Non-Veterans – 20 per 100K

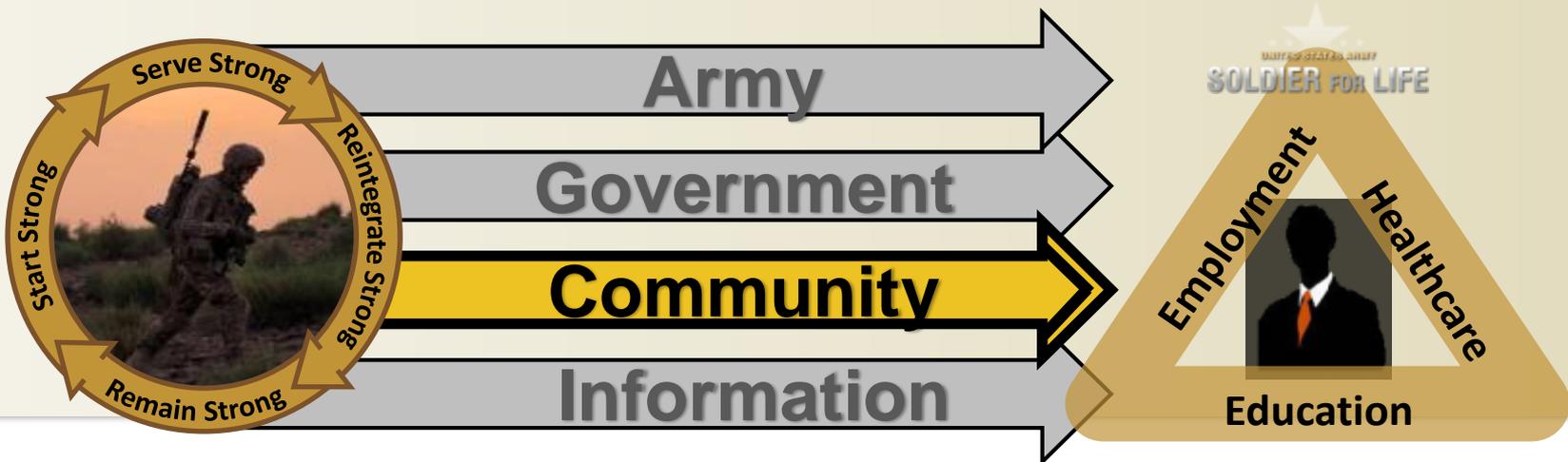


# Purpose



## Program Purpose:

- Soldier for Life enables Army, governmental, and community efforts to facilitate successful integration of our Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families in order to keep them Army Strong and instill their values, ethos, and leadership within communities.
  - Serve as the CSA/SA "eyes and ears" on Soldier, Veteran and Family re-integration.
  - Identify local economic and social challenges and facilitate solutions through regional/functional specialists.
  - Engage organizations and individuals to facilitate successful re-integration of Soldiers and their Families.
  - Link and integrate current Army Programs to enhance Soldier re-integration.
  - Develop a national engagement and integration strategy that informs and influences action





# Army Priorities

## Army Imperative: Sustain the Premier All-Volunteer Army

### Mindset

*Inculcate the SFL mindset into Soldiers and Families*

- SFL concepts in PME
- Educate the force through engagements
- Train and Educate Leaders to change culture
- Embed SFL NCOs into units
- Bring awareness to communities

### Access

*Leverage the Army Network and Centers of Influence to connect Veterans to resources*

- Engage partners to develop networks and connect to Veterans
  - VSO/MSOs
  - Interagency
  - Private Industry
  - CATs
  - Local Gov.
- Help NFE's gain access to and assist transitioning Soldiers

### Relationships

*Bring unity of effort to Army, Government, and Community action*

- Develop Public-Private Partnerships
- Connect resource providers to create efficiency
- Build the Army Network
- Connect civilian leaders with Army Senior Leadership

### Trust

*Maintain faith of Soldiers and Veterans to sustain the Premier All-Volunteer Army*

- Engage Communities to tell the Army Story
- Educate Centers of Influence and employers
- Deliver on promises to Veterans and the community
- Care for our Veterans ALWAYS

## Build Strong Communities and Army Network

# Soldier Life Cycle



- 1 Start Strong**
- Top 23%
  - High School Diploma / College
  - 'Partnership for Youth Success' Partners
  - Initial Entry Training
  - Army Values and Warrior Ethos



- 2 Serve Strong**
- Technical and Leadership experience
  - Professional Military Education supports continued development
  - Army Career Tracker / Credentialing Opportunities Online / Job Standard Test
  - Credentialing, Certifications and Licensing



- 4 Remain Strong**
- Community Reception
  - National Guard / Reserve
  - Veterans Service Organization / Military Service Organization
  - Retired Soldiers / Veterans
  - Mentors
  - Community Leaders



- 3 Re-integrate Strong**
- Soldier for Life –Transition Assistance Program
  - Retirement Services
  - National Guard / Reserve
  - Army Network / Mentors
  - Community Action Teams
  - Apprenticeships/Internships

**COMMEMORATION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR  
19 JUNE 2015, 1000HRS, COTTRELL FIELD, FORT STEWART, GEORGIA**



To thank and honor our Vietnam Veterans and their Families; to highlight the service of the Armed Forces and the contributions of Federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations; to pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States; to highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the Vietnam war; and to recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.



# Questions/Closing

