

# LEADERS WORKBOOK

Virtual Workshop Midwest Region Aug. 27, 2021



#### **MOAA's vision:**

To be the leading association advocating on behalf of the military community.

### **MOAA's mission:**

To advocate on behalf of the military community and never stop serving.



MOAA Council & Chapter Affairs Leaders Workbook Virtual Workshop Midwest Region

#### Introduction

This workbook was created to share information. resource tools, and best practices to enable council and chapter leaders to grow and sustain strong chapters. The workbook is not an allinclusive guide to chapter management but instead is intended to serve as a resource guide on those critical challenges facing MOAA's affiliate network. For more detailed resources. refer to the Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide, which you can find on www.moaa.org.

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APPENDIX III: COMMITTEE MODULE TRAINING

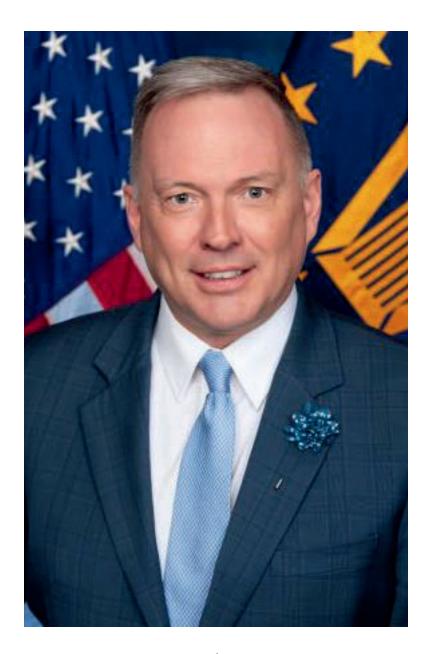
APPENDIX IV: LEGAL, TAX, COMMUNITY GRANT INFORMATION

**APPENDIX V: DIRECTORY** 

#### VIRTUAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

#### Friday, Aug. 27, 2021

9:45 a.m.	Virtual Platform Tour/familiarization
10 a.m.	Admin Remarks
10:05 a.m.	Invocation
10:10 a.m.	Pledge of Allegiance and Introduction of Lt. Gen. Atkins
10:15 a.m.	Welcoming Remarks
10:45 a.m.	MOAA Panel Discussion
12:45 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions:
	<ul> <li>Recruiting and Retention (Presidents, Membership Chairs)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Legislative Training (Legislative Chairs/Liaisons)</li> </ul>
	• Surviving Spouse Liaison Training (Surviving Spouse Liaisons)
3 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m.	Break-Out Debrief
4:30 p.m.	Guest Speaker
5:30 p.m.	Closing Remarks



## William F. Streitberger

# Executive Director, Chicago Regional Office Veterans Benefits Administration

William F. Streitberger was appointed Executive Director of the Chicago Regional Office (RO) in August 2020. As Executive Director, Mr. Streitberger is responsible for administering over \$159,000,000 a month in Compensation and Pension benefits to over 107,000 Veterans and their dependents in the 102 counties of the State of Illinois. He supports over 1,300 participants in the Veteran Readiness and Employment Program, assisting them in overcoming barriers to employment and securing independence in their daily living. In addition, the Chicago RO is responsible for determining eligibility for certain benefits and services provided by Insurance, Veteran Readiness and Employment, Loan Guaranty, the Veterans Health Administration and the National Cemetery Administration.

Mr. Streitberger was appointed Executive Director of Veteran Readiness and Employment Service in September of 2018. As Executive Director, Mr. Streitberger was responsible for overseeing the delivery of VR&E services to Veterans with service-connected disabilities and transitioning Servicemembers to prepare for, find, and maintain suitable careers, or obtain independence in daily living. He led operations employing approximately 1,600 employees located at over 350 locations including 56 Regional Offices, the National Capital Region Benefits Office, approximately 142 out-based offices, 71 Integrated Disability Evaluation Systems (IDES) installations, and 105 VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) sites.

# MOAA OVERVIEW

# Chapter Leaders' Workshop 2021



# **Six Strategic Priorities**



# Engagement: Keeping Members Informed





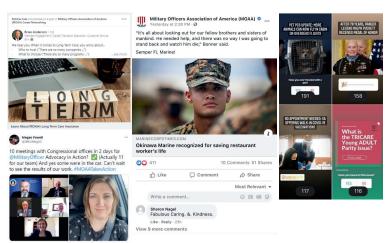








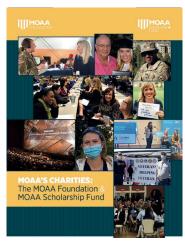
# Engagement: MOAA Social Media



# **Engagement: Publication Updates**



- Major donations from Humana and Delta Dental
- More than \$290,000 in individual donations
- 28 career
   building
   events
   with 6,800
   registrants in



- Professional Education
  - Outreach
     Career
    Transition
  - Spouse Professional Development
  - Community Outreach
  - Education Assistance
  - Emergency Relief

# The MOAA Foundation: Community Outreach Chapter Grants

**Showing Steady Growth** 

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Applications	9	29	44	48	36
Grants Awarded	6	19	22	23	33
Total Disbursed	\$25,000	\$75,000	\$79,400	\$84,832	\$87,400

# **MOAA Scholarship Fund**



- \$8.5 million in loans and grants distributed
- Increased annual loan/grant amount to \$8,000.
- Applications: Nov. 1 to March 1
- www.moaa.org/education



# **State Legislative Consortium**

#### Col Tom Robillard, USAF (Ret)

Trobillard@sc.rr.com VP SC State Council Legislative Affairs Mobile: (803) 730-6109

#### LTC Don Wolfinger, USA (Ret)

Don17609@yahoo.com Greater St. Louis Chapter/MO Council Legislative Affairs Mobile: (636) 484-0248

- · Facilitate the exchange of information across councils.
- Work with staffers/legislators at local level for state/federal issues.
- Sharing of programs, issues, and processes at the state level.
- Use virtual communications (conference calls, Skype, Facetime, MOAA Regional Training program) to share information.
- Does not replace council/chapter legislative affairs activities.
- MOAA Legislative Team provides guidance and assists as needed.

# October 2021 Annual Meeting and LOE Presentation



## **Board Selection Update**



Next Call for Nominations January 2022 Military Officer Magazine

#### Class of 2026

- · 1 warrant officer
  - 1 NOAA officer
- · 2 surviving spouses
- · 4 council/chapter leaders

#### **Diversity Awareness Initiatives:**

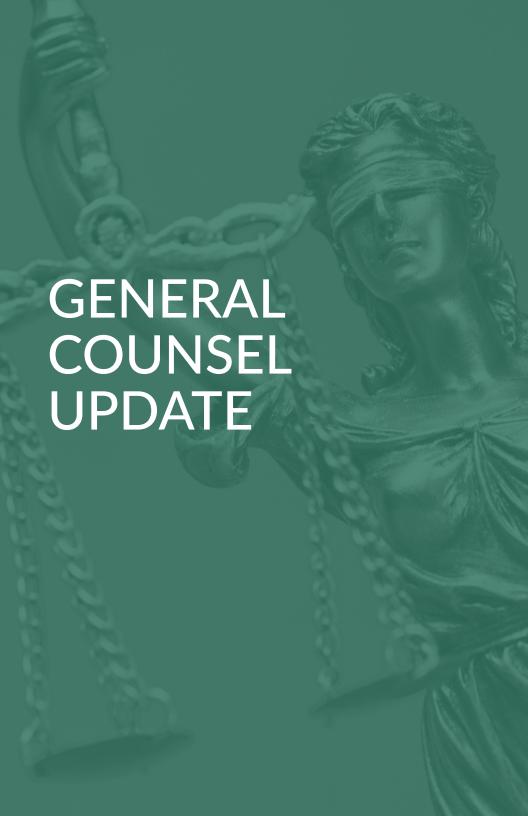
- Leadership meetings and outreach to minority mentoring organizations
- Encouraging member selfreporting of demographic data
- Promoting board service through multiple channels

# For More Details on Our Association



MOAA's 2020 Stakeholder's Report





## **General Counsel Update**

August 2021

# Legal Issues Council & Chapter Leaders Need to Know

Maj Gen Joe Lynch, MOAA General Counsel



# **MOAA Chapters: Legal Status**

- · Councils & Chapters are Affiliates
  - Chapters are independent, self-governing, and self-supporting organizations
  - The MOAA Charter authorizes councils & chapters to associate with MOAA and to use MOAA's name, logo, and tag line
- Relationship with MOAA National
  - Separate and distinct organizations
  - Councils & chapters are not agents or subsidiaries of MOAA National
  - They are not covered by MOAA's IRS tax exemption or MOAA's liability insurance

# **MOAA Chapters: Legal Status**

- MOAA Recommendation: Incorporate
  - Protects officers, directors, and members from personal liability in most instances
  - MOAA Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide provides useful templates for Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws
  - The website for the Secretary of State or Corporation Commission for your state provides detailed instructions and forms to use to incorporate
  - Follow the procedures for non-stock corporations (Virginia) or non-profit organizations (in your state)

# **MOAA Chapters: Legal Status**

- Apply to IRS for your tax exempt status
  - IRC 501(c)(19) Veterans Organizations
  - IRC 501(c)(4) Social Welfare Organizations
  - IRC 501(c)(3) Religious, Charitable, or Scientific Organizations
- Tax exempt status depends primarily on
  - Your mission (lobbying and advocacy, scholarships, or community improvement)
  - Source of income (dues, event revenue, donations)
- Exempt Status granted/denied by IRS after review of Articles of Incorporation or other organizational documentation
- Key Reference: IRS Publication 557

### The Process

- Secretary of State or State Corporation Commission charters the corporation
  - Check availability of name
  - Reasonable fee (Virginia is \$75)
  - Download forms from website and submit
  - Approximately 10 days
- Internal Revenue Service determines tax-exempt status
  - File the Correct IRS Form
  - Pay filing fee of \$600 [\$275 for 501(c)(3) Charities]
  - Generally takes 60 to 90 days, but exempt status is retroactive
  - File timely annual tax return IRS Form 990-N

### **Charitable Solicitations**

- Soliciting Charitable Contributions
  - Tax Exempt vs. Tax Deduction
  - State Registration Requirements
  - Annual Renewals Required
- Registration Requirements and Exemptions Vary by State
  - "Crowdfunding" is generally considered a solicitation
  - Pay the state's filing fee (Varies)
  - Online website solicitation may trigger out of state registration requirements

# MOAA Chapters: Liability Insurance

### MOAA Recommendation: Chapter/Council Liability Insurance

- Bad things happen traffic accidents; food poisoning; alcoholrelated injuries; personal data stolen or compromised; contractual indemnification
- Your homeowners insurance doesn't cover what you do as a chapter or council officer
- Your chapter has a duty to be a responsible member of your community – if a chapter unintentionally causes harm, it needs to have the means to make it right
- Litigation is expensive at least \$30,000 to \$50,000 even for a frivolous claim

# MOAA Chapters: Liability Insurance

- Insurance for Chapter Activities
  - Council and Chapter Insurance is available through MOAA's insurance administrator, Mercer Health & Benefits Administration
  - Up to \$2 million in commercial general liability coverage
  - Provides coverage for legal fees even if suit lacks merit
  - https://ebview.com/pdfgenerator/ViewPdf/moaa/ MOAA\_Club\_Chapter\_Liability.pdf
  - Annual cost varies depending on size of chapter. Generally, annual premium through Mercer is around \$350
  - Prices vary -- Check with a local commercial insurance broker

### Other Issues

- Chapter Newsletters and Websites
  - Your newsletter/website represents MOAA
  - Things to Avoid
    - · Divisive social issues
    - · Partisan political issues
  - Service Seals and Symbols
    - DoD/Services own trademark rights on most military service seals and symbols
    - · May not be used to identify the chapter
    - · Avoid incorporating them in the header, title, or chapter name
    - Prior permission is required (not normally granted)
    - Chapters are authorized to use MOAA seals and symbols

### **Resources: MOAA Publications**



Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide



MOAA Club and Chapter Liability Insurance Plan



MOAA Council & Chapter Affairs Leadership Workbook

## **Resources: IRS Publications**



#### **IRS Publications**

- IRS Pub. 3386 -Tax Guide for **Veterans Organizations**
- IRS Pub. 557 Tax Exempt Status for Your Organization
- IRS Pub. 4221-PC Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities

#### CAPT Erin Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret) CAPT Frank Michael, USN (Ret)

Senior Director Council and Chapter Affairs Phone: 703-838-8108 Email: erins@moaa.org

**Program Director** Council and Chapter Affairs Phone: 703-838-8818 Email: frankm@moaa.org



# Membership & Marketing Update

Elizabeth Limarzi, CAE Director, Marketing



# **Today's Environment**



# How Are We Doing?

350,000+ Members Strong

BASIC to PREMIUM Upgrades increasing YoY, but behind 2021 projections

Continue to grow paid new Mon

pipeline

Added 1,300+ new LIFE Members New PREMIUM Membership acquisition lagging

PREMIUM Member renewal rates stands strong at 78%.

## **Looking Forward**



Live events and recruiting

MOAA television commercial

New member portal

Change in dues structure - 2022

# **Working Together**

### How you can help:

- Ask questions
- Share the value of membership with your fellow officers and surviving spouses
- Invite others to join (Use promotion code: GRASSROOTS)



Elizabeth Limarzi, CAE Director, Marketing elizabethl@moaa.org



# **National Legislative Overview**

## Meet your HQ team:

<b>Dan Merry</b> DanM@moaa.org	Vice President
<b>René Campos</b> ReneC@moaa.org	VA/Wounded Warrior Care
<b>Mark Belinsky</b> MarkB@moaa.org	Currently Serving/Retired Affairs
Karen Ruedisueli KarenR@moaa.org	TRICARE & Medicare
<b>Jennifer Goodale</b> JenniferG@moaa.org	Military Family Issues
<b>Cory Titus</b> CoryT@moaa.org	Guard/Reserve/Veterans' Benefits
<b>Amanda Meyers</b> AmandaM@moaa.org	Research and Analysis
<b>Allison Reilly</b> AllisonR@moaa.org	Legislative Analyst
<b>Brenden McMahon</b> BrendenM@moaa.org	Legislative Analyst

# 116th Congress Accomplishments

### **Key DoD Highlights:**

- Complete elimination of the "Widows' Tax" in the FY20 NDAA
- FY20 3.1% uniformed services pay raise
- Blocked additional TRICARE fee increases (beyond those already scheduled) in FY20 NDAA
- FY21 3% military pay raise
- Sec. 717 and 718 in FY21 NDAA: Analysis of impact of downsizing and restructuring of MHS
- Improvements to the EFMP and TRICARE's Extended Health Care Option
- Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay (HDIP)
   Parity in FY21 NDAA

### **Key VA Highlights:**

- H.R. 299: Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019
- S. 3503: Veterans Education Programs
- H.R. 7105: Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020
- H.R. 8247: Veterans Comprehensive, Prevention, Access to Care, and Treatment (COMPACT) Act of 2020
- H.R. 8354: Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative Act of 2020
- Addition of three Agent Orange presumptives

# 117th Congress Goals

- Impact of COVID-19
- DoD Health Care
- Concurrent Receipt
- Military Family and Spouse Support
- Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform
- Guard/Reserve Parity
- VA Health Care and Benefits
- Arlington National Cemetery
- Uniformed Services Pay Raises
- Survivor Benefits
- U.S. Coast Guard Pay Protections

# 117th Congress: The Road Ahead

### 2021 Spring Advocacy Campaign: Advocacy in Action

- Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform
- TRICARE Young Adult Parity
- Basic Needs Allowance
- Virtual Event for 2021, will likely move to hybrid event moving forward

#### **Challenges Ahead**

- Delay in President's FY22 Budget Request
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic relief and future government spending
- Political divisiveness
- Decline in military experience in Congress

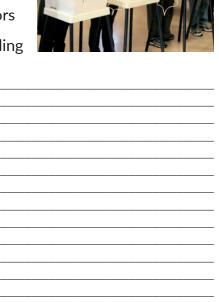
# 117th Congress Goals



- Never Stop Serving
- Bridge military-civilian divide
- Grow your pool of prospects

- Legislators listen to you first
- Community ambassadors

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## **Grassroots** — Local Advocacy

Increase HQ support for state-level legislative priorities  Build MOAA brand awareness Enhance capability and impact on Capitol Hill	Local success / impact	Chapter Growth  Expertise  Momentum

## **Advocacy: State Report Card**

#### MILITARY TAX ASSESSMENT MAP

#### Map Legend

- Both military retired pay (MRP) and Survivor Benefit Plan payments (SBP) are fully exempt from state taxation.
- MRP and/or SBP receive partial exemption from state taxation.
- Neither MRP nor SBP is exempt from state taxation

Source: MOAA Communications; current as of July 26, 2021



- Dual maps
  - State taxation
  - Troop & Family issues
- Proprietary analysis
- Member value
- Marketing campaign
- www.moaa.org/statereportcard

## **State Legislative Consortium**

## Col. Tom Robillard, USAF (Ret)

TRobillard@sc.rr.com VP South Carolina State Council Legislative Affairs

Mobile: (803) 730-6109

## Lt. Col. Don Wolfinger, USA (Ret)

Don17609@yahoo.com Greater St. Louis Chapter/ MO Council Legislative Affairs Mobile: (636) 484-0248

#### **Objective**

- Facilitate the exchange of information across councils
- Federal Legislative process: "Advocacy in Action" (at the national level by MOAA HQ)
  - Work with staffers/legislators at local level for state/federal issues. Local constituents
- Sharing of programs, issues and processes at the state level.
- Use virtual communications (conference calls, Skype, Facetime, MOAA Regional Training program) to share information
- Does not replace council/chapter legislative affairs activities

<ul> <li>MOAA Legislative Team provides guidance</li> </ul>			

## MOAA National Initiatives to Support State Advocacy

- Headquarters point of contact
- Advocacy training
- Opportunities for collaboration
  - Virtual chapters
- Virtual resources
  - State Report Card



## **In Summary**

- Complementary efforts = mutual benefits
  - Can shape the membership dimension
- Share ideas and best practices.
- Grassroots matter significantly.
  - Make opportunities and create a buzz.
  - Make the news (in a good way ).
- Provide feedback and areas of need.


# SURVIVING SPOUSE UPDATE

## **History**

- 2004: Created as the Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee (AMAC).
- 2013: Became full voting members of MOAA
- 2013: Changed name to Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee
- 2014: Surviving Spouse Member Joyce Harte was elected to the MOAA BOD
- 2018: Created the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter
- 2020: Changed name to Surviving Spouse Advisory Council

We have come a long way in a few short years!

## **Background**

- Who we are: 6 members from different states and backgrounds, plus the BOD SS rep. Serving a term of 4-6 years
- Who we represent: All surviving spouses of a military officer who was or could have been a member of MOAA
- Our charter: To advise the MOAA president on issues unique to surviving spouses and, in coordination with the Surviving Spouse Board Member, provide the surviving spouse perspective in accomplishing MOAA key strategic goals

## **MOAA Key Values**

#### Promote the key values of MOAA:

- Advocacy
- Membership
- Council & Chapter Support
- Engagement/Resources
- MOAA Foundation and Scholarship Fund

### SSAC Three E's

We accomplish these goals as a council through:

**≻**Education

➤ Encouragement

**≻**Engagement

### **Educate**

#### We educate:

- Surviving spouses & spouses
- Elected representatives
- MOAA members
- The military community

About issues that affect all military but especially surviving spouses and spouses.

# Tips for Educating Chapter Members and Surviving Spouses

- Use the term 'Surviving Spouse' instead of 'Auxiliary.'
- Ensure everyone in the chapter knows surviving spouses are regular members.
- Train Surviving Spouse Liaisons for their position.
- Provide them with the resources they need to do their job.
- Listen!

# Who Can Be a Surviving Spouse Liaison?

- Any member male or female or a spouse can be appointed to the position: Does not have to be a surviving spouse.
- Councils & Chapters with an assigned Surviving Spouse Liaison are awarded 10 points on their LOE scoring.


## **Encourage**

- We encourage Surviving Spouses to be involved in MOAA Chapters and Councils;
- We encourage military members to accept Surviving Spouses as important members of their chapter and council; and
- We encourage eligible surviving spouse non-members to join both the local chapter and National MOAA.

# Tips for Encouraging Surviving Spouses

- Encourage Surviving Spouse participation within Councils/Chapters.
- Appoint/elect them to leadership roles.
- Put them in charge of special projects.
- Initiate post-death contact, invite therm to chapter meetings.
- Welcome and include in all chapter activities.
- Request feedback.
- Submit for national recognition (Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award)

## **Engage**

#### We engage by

- Participating in the legislative process
- Speaking to groups about MOAA
- Coordinating major events that bring attention to MOAA
- Providing support from our personal experiences to other surviving spouses
- We tell our story!

# Tips for Engaging Surviving Spouses

- Appoint to Chapter Board.
- Design programs of interest.
- Elect to leadership positions.
- Ask for recommendations and program ideas.
- Include Surviving Spouses in all aspects of chapter management.

## **Engagement: Publication Updates**



- Learn about MOAA benefits & support!
- Get acquainted with the Veterans Administration Website (VA.gov.)
  - Learn about Agent Orange & other causes of vets' illnesses
  - Get latest information on cemeteries & burials
  - Research Aid & Attendance
  - Financial assistance available through services

## **Information and Support**

- MOAA website Surviving Spouse Section
- Surviving Spouse Advisory Council
- Council/Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison
- SSAC monthly/archived articles
- Support during personal crisis
- Day After Calls Minnesota Chapter
- Advocates for Surviving Spouse issues
- Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter 02
- VA website; AARP; Military.com

# Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter 02

- Connecting Surviving Spouses including Hawaii,
   Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Europe
- Providing opportunities to Encourage, Educate and Engage
- Must be a MOAA member
- No dues
- Virtual meetings quarterly (1—1½ hour)

## Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter 02

#### Meetings:

- 3rd Tuesday each month (Eastern time)
- Fall meetings:
- Sept. 21, 2021, at 1 p.m. (informational)
- Oct. 19, 2021, at 5 p.m. (social)

#### • Agenda will include:

- Update on Legislative Issues
- Health and Financial Information
- Exchange of information & Ideas

# **Education of Surviving Spouses and Spouses: Planning Ahead!**

- Plan Ahead!
  - Encourage members & spouses to talk to each other about death and ways to prepare.
- Help your spouse be a surviving spouse before that time in your lives happens.
  - Gather important papers: DD214, wills, living will, durable power of attorney, insurance policies, passwords, birth/marriage certificates, etc.
  - Check all signature cards.
  - Review all insurance policies.
  - Make sure utilities are in BOTH names.
  - Open a credit card account in YOUR name.
  - Review all investments with a financial adviser.
  - Insure bank accounts are accessible.
  - Gather all passwords in one place.
  - Make sure death certificate identifies cause of death correctly.

## Things to Remember

#### **First**

- Sit down and have a Heart-to-Heart talk with your spouse and your children about death and what happens after. It is a gift of love!
- Schedule at least one chapter meeting a year where you discuss these issues. MOAA, SSAC & your Surviving Spouse Liaison can provide you with a wealth of information.

#### Second

- Make an effort to recruit surviving spouses in your area to join your chapter.
- When they do join, get them involved, appoint them to your board, support them in important projects and LISTEN!
- NC Chapter President: "The involvement & contributions of the surviving spouses in our chapter have greatly increased the vibrancy, energy and strength of our chapter!"

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## **Supporting Our Chapters**

- Member spotlight (weekly in newsletter/monthly in magazine)
- Annual Military Officer special report
- Training, editing, design assists
- Communications Awards & more







## **Growing Readership Online**

- MOAA.org earns more than 8 million page views per year
- The MOAA Newsletter open rate is above 30 percent, exceeding industry averages
- Our Facebook page regularly hits higher engagement than the biggest VSOs

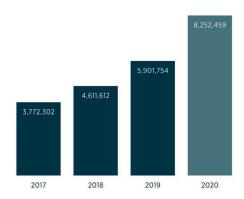






## **MOAA.org Traffic**

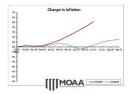
**TOTAL PAGE VIEWS** 



### **Most Read Online**

- TRICARE news
- · COLA updates and news
- · Pay and benefits
- Arlington National Cemetery eligibility
- State tax breaks and tax assistance









## **Top-Notch Storytelling**

We are focused on choosing compelling content that resonates with our audience in our magazine and online.



### **New Initiatives**

- MOAA Life Member LTC Olivia Nunn leading MOAA's Never Stop Serving Podcast
- CAPT Paul Frost, from MOAA HQ, has launched our new TRICARE Toolkit column
- Staff Writer Amanda Dolasinski is producing Military Officer audio storytelling series



## **Emphasis on Video**

MOAA Comms staffers shoot and edit video for our website, YouTube and social media channels.



### **Centered on our Members**

We prioritize interesting and inspiring stories that feature our diverse and exceptional membership.



## **Continued Focus on Diversity**

We believe our products must reflect the diversity of the military community, so we've launched an initiative to gather story ideas across MOAA, while continuing to push our products to be more inclusive.



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## Year of the Chapter




## **Program Updates**

- Pandemic Response
  - Priority on Health and Well-being of Members
  - Staying Connected
  - Transition Planning

• Monthly Roundtables

- MOAA Store
- Association Management System Change
- Virtual Chapters vs. Virtual Tools for Geographic Chapters

## **Chapter Overview**

#### The healthy chapter:

- Chapter Purpose/Mission
- Legislative Advocacy/Engagement
- Impactful Community Service
- Membership Growth

#### Often reflected by:

- Use of committee module/other electronic tools
- Up-to-date leadership roster

• Training and collaboration

- Recruiting and retention statistics
- Use of sponsorship and grant programs
- National and Council engagement


### New Leader's Checklist

- Review the Policies and Procedures Guide in its entirety
- Familiarize yourself with the contents of the council and chapter page of the moaa.org website
- Be a national MOAA member (or the spouse of a national MOAA member)
- Be opted-in to receive communications from national MOAA, to include the TMN and C&C content
- Ensure the electronic roster is updated with new affiliate officers upon installation
- Ask for a New President's package from MOAA National if you haven't received one

• Watch the recording of the last Leaders Workshop

• Water the recording of the last Leaders Workshop	
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### Affiliate Checklist

- Have a stated and known mission
- Officer familiarity with the MOAA website and P&P Guide
- Subscribe to The MOAA Newsletter
- Proactively address renewals
- Have a succession plan
- Regularly submit awards nominations
- Update CM roster and check NRT monthly
- Use existing technology/tools
- Publish a newsletter (print or electronic)
- Have a well-maintained website and social media presence
- Regularly engage with Council and national CCA

Engage with other MSOs/VSOs/Coalitions/

- Regularly attend offered training
- Engage in community service and advocacy activities
- Chamber of Commerce

## **Chapter Mission Statement**

<b>Develop</b> – Identify your purpose		
<b>Articulate</b> – Listen; incorporate mission in responding to need of prospect		
<b>Reiterate</b> – Include in your chapter marketing materials		

## **Grassroots Advocacy**

**Goal**: Influence in each congressional district

- Legislative chair/liaison
- Coordinate Council and Chapter efforts
- Foster relationships with elected officials
- Visit legislators/staffers in home offices
- Participate in the State Legislative Exchange Forum
- Keep your chapter members informed and involved
  - Legislative Updates/Alerts in The MOAA Newsletter (weekly)
  - Legislative Action Center messages
    - New pull-down menu to track chapter member participation
  - Participate in Annual Advocacy Events

Join Virtual Chapter(s)			

# **Community Service Support**

- Community Sponsorship Program
- COVID-19 Relief Fund

#### • The MOAA Foundation Community Outreach Grants

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 COVID-19	2021	2021 COVID-19
Applications	9	29	44	48	48	36	36
Grants Awarded	6	19	22	23	11	33	17
Total Disbursed	\$25,000	\$75,000	\$79,400	\$84,832	\$55,000	\$87,485	\$25,175

# **2021 Community Outreach Grants**

Council/Chapter	Summary of Program
Alabama Council	Programs promoting recovery and tele-peer support to veterans
Alamo TX	Veteran transition assistance, 1 day event
Arizona	Care packages for local/deployed military
Cape Canaveral FL	Emergency relief, rent, utilities, food, etc., for at-risk or homeless veterans and their families
Clearwater FL	K9 Service Dog Therapy Collaboration to eliminate veteran suicide
El Paso TX	Therapeutic Virtual Art Classrooms for active duty, veterans & families - Resiliency Through Art
Falcons Landing VA	Direct financial support to veterans/spouses with urgent need
Grand Canyon AZ	Housing, food, and emergency financial relief for veterans in need
Grand Strand NC	Veterans' emergency assistance and support for those facing homelessness
Greater Baton Rouge	Outreach to deployed servicemembers
Greater Dallas/N TX	Emergency assistance for veterans facing homelessness, eviction, utility and transportation loss
Greater St. Louis MO	Financial support to active duty, veterans, and families to improve quality of life
Historic Mayport FL	Food assistance and support to active duty military families
Indian River FL	Critical home improvements for veteran homeowners unable to do repairs
Lee Coast FL	Homeless veteran mentoring and development program
Luke AZ	Housing, food, emergency financial assistance to broad military community
New River NC	Armed Forces Day concert supporting Fisher Houses of Camp LeJeune and Fort Bragg
Northwest Florida	Provide commissary gift cards to E-4 and below in conjunction w/First Sergeant Councils
Old Capitol Area GA	Lodging for families of veterans at the Georgia War Veterans' Home
Olympia Area WA	School supplies for military children
Olympic Peninsula WA	
Sarasota FL	Retreat for military members, Veterans, Gold Star Mothers, and families
South Central FL	Financial aid and food pantry supplies to Veterans
Southeast Idaho	Veterans Outreach booth at State Fair to provide assistance and info to vets
Southeastern NC	Veteran Education Assistance Grants for college students only
Southeastern WI	Camp maintenance/improvements for military children who have lost a family member
Southwest Florida	JROTC involvement with veterans in assisted living and nursing facilities
Southwest Virginia	Providing food and other personal essentials to military families
St. Petersburg Area Fl	Purchasing and repairs to homes for homeless veterans
Tampa FL	Art rehab therapy and assisting families of wounded during their stay
Treasure Coast FL	Providing hot meals to at-risk and homeless veterans and their families
Tucson AZ	Virtual academic engagement for students and parents

Chapters received additional funds to support COVID-19 specific efforts

## **Recruiting Tools and Resources**

- Recruiting Program Guide
- Near Real Time Report
- President's "Permission Granted" Message
- Electronic Messaging



- Common Join Form
- New Member Voucher Program
- Virtual Chapters
- Online Dues
- Chapter Gear/Logos
- · RAD/Recruiting Kits
- Publications

https://www.moaa.org/content/ chapters-and-councils/ chapters-and-councils/

I am a...Chapter Leader/Member


# **Chapter Communications**









- Military Officer Magazine
- MOAA.org
- The MOAA Newsletter
- · White Label Newsletter
- Social Media



Blair Drake Contributing Editor blaird@moaa.org

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# **Recruiting Best Practices**

- Every member is a recruiter
- Establish recruiting budget line
- Create internal recruiting competition
- Build a recruiting package (invitation letter, current newsletter, membership application)
- Always carry recruiting info
- Provide online join option, use online dues program
- Have a website or web presence
- Use social media
- Conduct meetings at different venues and times
- Connect with base retirement services office or transition center
- Strive for and earn recruiting and retention incentives and awards
- Utilize Sales Training techniques

Why does the prospect want to join MOAA?

vs

Why did you join MOAA?

# Generational Recruiting and Retention

- Relevant, accessible programming
- Relatable, welcoming chapter members
- Younger generation wants to DO something; make a difference
- Consult with target demographic
- Former officers often join for camaraderie


## **Inclusion and Retention**



- Welcoming, diverse environment
- Integrate new members quickly
- First impression is key
- Sponsors for new members
- Survey chapter members
- Programming
  - Current events, interests
  - Mission
  - Social

# **Leadership Succession Tips**

- Review present bylaws/fill critical positions first
- Review current term limits
- Consider "fleet up" model with a deep bench
- Generate interest in leadership positions well before nominations
- Identify potential candidates during normal course of business
- Groom and mentor potential leaders and get them involved in a chapter committee
- Be inclusive and proactive in including surviving spouse members and spouses
- Develop a chapter operations handbook
- Have an active awards/recognition program

## **Revenue Generation**

- Councils: Travel/Virtual Meeting Stipends
- Recruiting Incentives/Awards
- Community Sponsorship Program
- MOAA Vacations Rebate
- Mercer Advertising
- Newsletter Advertising
- Local Retail Sponsors
- AmazonSmile

# **Key Dates**

Monthly Roundtable: Recruiting	Sept. 30
Annual Meeting/LOE Award Ceremony	Oct. 15
Monthly Roundtable: Retention and Leader Succession	Oct. 28
Scholarship Application Begins	Nov. 1
Quarterly CP/ICP meeting	Nov. 10
Monthly Roundtable: Community Outreach Grants & Sponsorships	Nov. 18
Southwest Leaders' Workshop (Southern California)	Nov. 19-20
Community Outreach Grant Applications open	Dec. 1
Community Sponsorship Applications open	Dec. 1
Monthly Roundtable: Incorporation, Tax Status & Liability Insurance	Dec. 30


# **2021 Leader Training Workshops**

#### Leadership Seminar Orlando, FL Jan. 8-9 AL, FL, GA

Virtual W/S (NE) Apr 30-May 1 CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV

Virtual W/S (MW) Aug 27-28 IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, WI

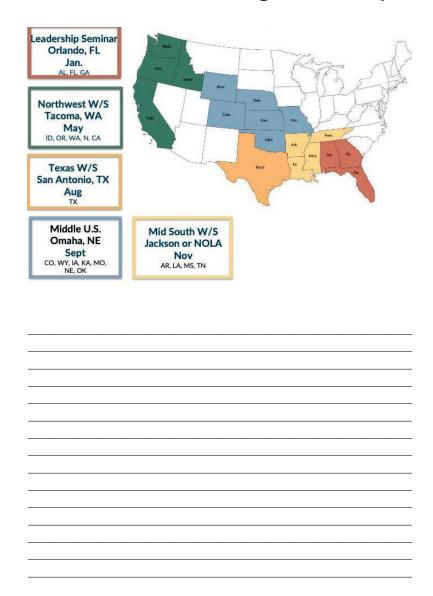
MidAtlantic W/S Raleigh, NC Sept 17-18 GA, KY, NC, SC, TN, VA



Southwest W/S Southern Cal. Nov 19-20 AZ, CA, CO, NM, NV, UT

·	·	 

# 2022 Leader Training Workshops



## Resources



- www.MOAA.org
  - C&C Policies and Procedures Guide
  - Electronic Appendix
  - Leaders Workbook
  - Electronic Newsletter
- chapters@moaa.org
- 1-800-234-MOAA

# SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON TRAINING

# Who can be a Surviving Spouse Liaison?

- Any member male or female or a spouse can be appointed to the position: Does not have to be a surviving spouse
- Councils & Chapters with an assigned Surviving Spouse Liaison are awarded 10 points on their LOE scoring.

#### What is Your Role?

- Primary Point of Contact for Surviving Spouse & Spouse legislative & benefits issues
- Advise the council or chapter president on Surviving Spouse issues
- Encourage, Engage & Educate surviving spouses and spouses of members to take an active role in the chapter/council and MOAA advocacy
- Assist members during times of loss

# **Encourage, Engage,** and Educate



# **5 Key Focus Areas**

#### Promote the key values of MOAA:

- Advocacy
- Membership
- Council & Chapter support
- Engagement/sesources
- The MOAA Foundation and Scholarship Fund

# **Advocacy**

- Focus on issues important to Surviving Spouses & Spouses
- SBP/DIC Implementation
- Improvement of DIC
- Remarriage Issues
- Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard Surviving Spouse Issues

# Membership

- Grow surviving spouse membership in both National MOAA & local chapters
- Constant reminder: A surviving spouse is a regular member!
- The spouse did not have to be a MOAA member a surviving spouse can join on their own.
- Membership categories available:
  - LIFE (can be inherited by surviving spouse or purchased)
  - Premium 1/2/3-year terms available (discounted for surviving spouses)
  - Basic Free
  - See Brochure or MOAA.org for more information
- Encourage a surviving spouse to join MOAA.;
  - Initiate post-death contact invite to chapter meetings
  - Make phone calls; offer rides
  - Welcome & include in ALL chapter activities
  - Inform potential members about MOAA benefits
  - Always use the term "Surviving Spouse" rather than "Auxiliary"
  - Request feedback

# **Council & Chapter Support**

- Encourage participation within the chapter
- Apply for chapter/council board
- Solicit input to design programs of interest
- Volunteer for leadership positions
- Incorporate Surviving Spouses in all aspects of chapter management
- Take charge! Design, Develop, Direct a Special Project!
- Be an advocate. Promote MOAA's legislative issues.
- Educate about personal affairs & actions to take before and after a personal loss.
- Recognize outstanding performance local & national (i.e., MOAA Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award).

# **Engagement & Resources**

- Take advantage of MOAA website (MOAA.org), publications, weekly newsletters & articles.
- Share information with all members, spouses & potential members.
- Ways to stay informed:
  - MOAA Website MOAA.org

     ✓ Check "I am a Surviving Spouse."
  - SSAC articles that appear on the website under Surviving Spouse Resources, Councils/Chapters & Newsletters
  - MOAA publications/brochures about Surviving Spouse issues
  - Regional Leadership Training Workshops
  - MOAA Webinars on relevant topics
  - Legislative updates on all military issues: pay, housing, health care, commissary, etc.
  - Participation in the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter
  - Membership in the MOAA Facebook group MOAA Surviving Spouses & Friends
- USAA Survivor Relations Team

# **Engagement:** Publications Updates



### **Best Practices**

- Communicate with surviving spouses through newsletters, personal contact, and at meetings
- Organize events of interest to surviving spouses & spouses
- Provide valuable resources about benefits
- Help and support during personal loss
- Involvement in Community Activities & Military Events

-		

# Education of Surviving Spouses & Spouses: Planning Ahead!

- PLAN AHEAD!
  - Encourage members & spouses to talk to each other about death and ways to prepare.
- Help your spouse be a surviving spouse before that time in your lives happens.
  - Gather important papers: DD214, wills, living will, durable power of attorney, insurance policies, birth/marriage certificates, passwords, etc.
  - Check all signature cards.
  - Review all insurance policies.
  - Make sure utilities are in BOTH names.
  - Open a credit card account in YOUR name.
  - Review all investments with a financial adviser.
  - Insure bank accounts are accessible.
  - Gather all passwords in one place.
  - Make sure death certificate identifies cause of death correctly.

# **Steps to Prepare**

- Mark a calendar date to assemble all important papers.
- Make an appointment with your spouse/child/ trusted friend to discuss paperwork.
- Make some personal decisions and list them.


#### **Balance Sheets**

#### **INCOME AND EXPENSE EXERCISE**

#### **JOINT**

Include all incomes from both you and your spouse and all expenses.

#### **SPOUSE 1**

Include only your income and your expenses.

#### **SPOUSE 2**

Include only spouse's income and expenses.

In Spouse 1 and Spouse 2 scenarios, include income

that would transfer to the other in case of death.


# **Assembling Paperwork**

- Birth/marriage certificates, divorce decrees and property distributions
- Insurance policies, check beneficiaries
- Mortgages, bank and brokerage reports, check beneficiaries
- Gather all passwords and user IDs. Share lock combinations.
- Record credit cards and balances. Check to see that each has one in their name alone.
- Review utility bills, check that both names are on the account.
- Explore bank statements and check registers for occasional expenses (for example: estimated taxes, HOA fees, charitable gifts, safety deposit box rentals, etc.)


# MOAA Foundation & Scholarship Fund

- Scholarship Fund
  - Grants & no-interest loans available for children of active duty/retired military. A good incentive for many to join MOAA.
- MOAA Foundation provides funds for a variety of programs.
  - Transition
  - Employment assistance for spouses of currently serving
  - Grants to chapters/councils for community programs
  - Special grants for assistance for Covid 19 issues.

• Encourage all members to financially support these

Surviving Spouses are eligible

important programs.

# Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter

- Connecting Surviving Spouses throughout the U.S. and across the world
- Providing opportunities to Encourage, Engage, and Educate
- Must be a MOAA Member
- No dues
- Virtual meetings are held monthly
- Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday each month
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 21, 1p.m. (Eastern)
- Discussion can include:
  - Legislative updates
  - Health care issues
  - Financial Planning
  - Other issues important to surviving spouses & spouses
  - Input from members opportunity to share information/ask questions/offer comments

•	To Join, email mssvc02@gmail.com

# **Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award 2022**



FROGRATIS	
2013 Service Space Laboral Experience Control (Galactica) Propose Alexed Service Servi	Deadline: June 1, 2022
serving gover below relict for regret in the cause) shaper resident.  A finite recent shaper gover resident.  Which is retired with regret gover resident.  Which is retired with regret govers relicted to the days by discouring one and innecessite activities to held finite intend.  Which is retired uncome govern with the classified by discouring resident government of the control	Take action!
If controls in this cold mode.  If the controls is the control mode.  If the controls is the control mode is the control mode in the control mode	Nominate someone for a Level of Excellence Award!

# Stay Informed

#### Learn about MOAA benefits & support!

- Get acquainted with the Veterans Affairs Website (VA.gov)
  - Learn about Agent Orange & other causes of vets' illnesses
  - Get latest information on cemeteries & burials
  - Research Aid & Attendance
  - Financial Assistance available through services

# Additional information can be found in the following places:

- AARP.org
- Military.com
- Militarycoalition.org
   Health Care Committee- Survivors
- Militaryonesource.mil
- Minnesota Chapter "The Day After Calls" (MOAA.org/DayAfter)
- Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter mssvc02@gmail.com
- MOAA Surviving Spouses & Friends Facebook group

NOTE: As a surviving spouse, it is important that you think about yourself and YOUR survivors and the things they will need to know!

# **Surviving Spouse Contacts**

#### **MOAA Board of Directors**

Gail Joyce, CAPT Kathy Thorp, USN (Ret)

#### **Surviving Spouse Advisory Council Members:**

email: SSComm@moaa.org

Gail Joyce, Chair

Barbara Smith, First Vice Chair Chapters & Councils

Nancy Mullen, Second Vice Chair Issues related to active duty/reserve/ National Guard deaths

Kathy Thorp, Board Member Barbara Bowman, Renee Brunelle, Pat Green, Vivianne Wersel

#### **MOAA Staff Advisors**

LTC Suzanne Walker, USA (Ret) Celine Hamilton, Member Service Representative

#### **Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter (SSVC)**

Micki Costello, President Gail Joyce, Vice President Barbara Smith, Membership Chair

# **Questions?**

**Surviving Spouse Advisory Council** 

# LTC Suzanne Walker, USA (Ret) SuzanneW@moaa.org Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter msscv02@gmail.com

# WORKSHOP CLOSING REMARKS

# **MOAA** Making a Difference



For 14 Straight Years



#### The Hill's Top Lobbyists 2020

# A Record of Advocacy Achievement

#### Value Added Persona • 44-year-old O-5 retiree • \$165K in retirement earnings over 20yrs • 65-year-old Medicare beneficiary · Saving at least \$5K annually in Medicare supplement premiums • 70-year-old SBP/DIC recipient Repeal provides \$12K/year (by Jan '23) • 50-year-old military spouse Full tuition at public university and \$2,000/month average allowance working on a degree • Retires age <65 Fought DoD's proposed TRICARE Select fee of \$900/year (family) ... Congress backed down to \$300/year

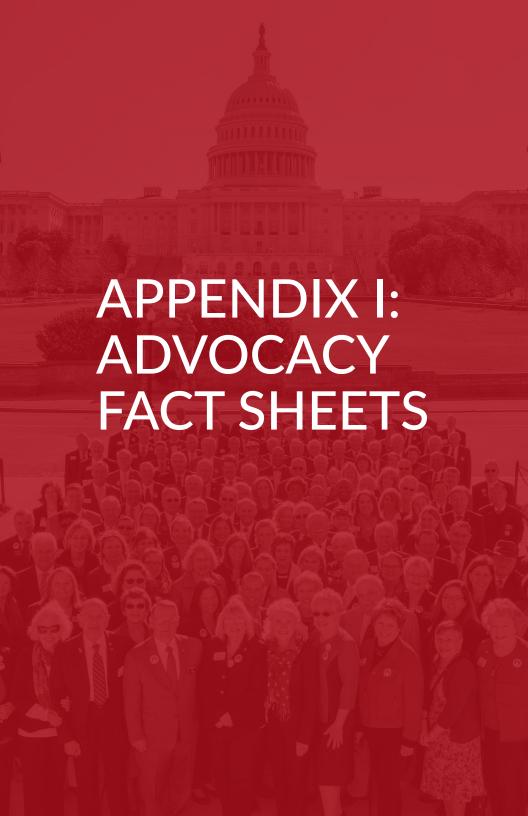
## Why Advocacy & Engagement Are Team Sports

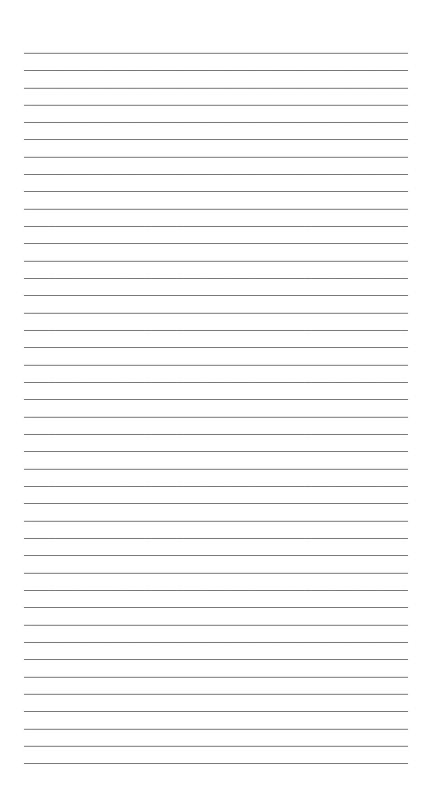
- Each of us must be engaged active duty, retired, veterans & military spouses – to encourage future generations to serve!
- Continue to educate & inform elected officials:
  - 96 veterans serving today in Congress 18%
  - 129 in 2007 24%
  - 389 in 1969 73%
- Speak out & champion the needs of our military community!
- Defend military, veteran & survivor benefits in this environment of divisive politics & tight budgets

## **Never Stop Serving**



"I am not sure I will ever enjoy working for an organization as much as I have enjoyed working for MOAA!"







## Congress: Provide a Basic Needs Allowance for Military Families Facing Food Insecurity

## What Is the Basic Needs Allowance?

The proposed Basic Needs Allowance would give an estimated \$400 monthly subsidy to servicemembers with a household gross income (not including the Basic Allowance for Housing, or BAH) at or below 130% of the poverty line. The subsidy is meant to ensure no military family faces food insecurity. It would be accompanied by financial education resources.

The Congressional Budget
Office (CBO) estimates around
10,200 servicemembers
would benefit from the
monthly allowance. The program would cost \$175 million
from 2021 through 2024,
according to CBO projections
— a little less than \$44 million
per fiscal year.

Servicemembers would not rely on this program for extended periods of time. Instead, it would provide much-needed temporary assistance during times of financial difficulty, mostly among junior enlisted.

This program also will alleviate the need for servicemembers to participate in the government-sponsored Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), thus reducing mandatory spending in this area and making the overall program cost minimal when compared to the DoD budget.

### Why Is It Needed?

Many military families facing food insecurity do not qualify for SNAP because BAH is included in the program's calculation of gross income. This barrier to SNAP participation has led to thousands of military families seeking assistance from food pantries, many operating on or near military installations. The Armed Services YMCA, one of the top food pantry providers at military installations, reports a 400% increase in demand for assistance during the pandemic. The mental and physical impacts of food insecurity directly impact a servicemember's ability to do their job, compromising military readiness.

Additionally, the DoD has spent billions of dollars looking into obesity in the military, increasing the recruitment pool, and Total Force Fitness. Food insecurity plays a part in all of these; addressing it with a wider approach will create positive change for mental and physical health, and could potentially save dollars spent addressing these issues.

To learn more about SNAP participation among servicemembers and MOAA's concerns with the 14th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation report on this topic, visit MOAA.org/foodinsecurity.



### You Can Help: Cosponsor H.R. 2339

- We are seeking bipartisan support for our military families facing food insecurity. Your cosponsorship of this legislation will help us secure this bill in the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act.
- Support for military families. Will you join us and the coalition of more than 35 military and veterans service organizations committed to passing this legislation?
- These organizations endorse this legislation and represent millions of Americans:

  The Million Continue Continue

  The Million C

The Military Coalition, MAZON, Blue Star Families, The White Oak Collaborative, and other partners.



### **Congress: Pass Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform**

### Background

Servicemembers, veterans, and their families from every generation face lifelong challenges from toxic exposures.

Oct. 31, 2021, will mark the 50th anniversary of the final helicopter flight when Agent Orange was used in Vietnam. Thirty years have passed since Gulf War veterans were exposed to myriad hazardous materials and toxins. Twenty years ago, the first troops were deployed to fight the global war on terror, many serving near open-air burn pits and other environmental dangers.

Each war poses unique hazards and exposures for servicemembers, and each conflict has led to tens of thousands of veterans suffering from illnesses or disabilities long after they returned home. Despite the documented history of potential health consequences connected to the dangers they encountered during service, many servicemembers are not receiving commensurate health care and benefits.

Action 1: Concede exposure The first step toward supporting servicemembers who fought in Southwest Asia is to concede exposure to toxic substances. The Veterans Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act will support claims by:

- Specifying countries and time periods of service: Those who served in a given nation at a time when these burn pits were active would be presumed to have been exposed to burn pit toxins.
- Listing airborne hazards and toxic substances that a servicemember was exposed to within the specified countries.
- Requiring the VA to provide a medical exam to determine any links between medical conditions and burn pit exposures.

For Army combat engineer Sgt. Mike Geib, the symptoms of Gulf War illness were immediate. Before he deployed, he was healthy and excelling on his physical fitness tests. But just 10 years later, he was a 28-year-old Army sergeant medically discharged with a 10% disability rating for asthma.

"I couldn't run, I was turning blue," Geib said, describing how serious his respiratory issues had become. "I knew in my heart. I knew it was from exposure."

During the Gulf War, Geib's unit traveled through Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait, where he worked in close proximity to the oil well fires. When the unit returned to the United States, he stayed behind to paint equipment with a paint that was later determined to contain carcinogens.

In the 27 years since he was discharged, Geib's health has suffered and new diagnoses of fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome, memory loss, migraines and respiratory issues have increased his disability rating to 100%.

"Believe us," he said. "We



**Army Sgt. Mike Geib** was 28 when he was medically discharged. Since then, he has fought a long battle for assistance.

were there. We were the boots on the ground."

Conceding exposure to hazardous materials would reduce the burden on the veteran to prove illnesses, which may not be revealed until decades later, are related to military service. Presuming exposure would expedite the time it takes for a veteran to file for VA benefits.

### Action 2: Increase Presumptives Reporting

When there is a sufficient level of association between a service-related exposure and an illness, Congress establishes a "presumptive exposure" to remove the burden of proof from servicemembers.

Congress should require the VA to provide a public, quarterly report on all future veterans' claims submitted to the VA for presumptive conditions or "special interest conditions," such as illnesses being evaluated for potential links to burn pit exposure.

When Col. Donald Siebenaler, USA (Ret), was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, he and his wife, Rita, reflected on what could have led to the disease — and wondered if it was related to his service in Vietnam.

"He did it joyfully," Rita Siebenaler said of her husband's service. "He's paying the price for it now. ... I really would like this investigated further because Alzheimer's takes such a toll on individual families."

In 1965, Siebenaler served as a company commander in Vietnam, where he was exposed to Agent Orange. Decades later, he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's by a neurologist conducting a grant-funded study at Georgetown University.

Because Alzheimer's is not part of the VA's presumptive

list, the family does not receive financial assistance for Siebenaler's health care. Rita Siebenaler said her family is paying exorbitant out-of-pocket expenses but knows other military families may have to go without care.

Research is emerging that dementia may be linked to Agent Orange exposure, but under current law, the VA is not required to respond or act to support veterans. Increasing presumptive reporting would ensure current presumptives are helping veterans and increase awareness around emerging conditions.

### Action 3: Expand Veteran Health Care and Improve Presumptives Process

As the health consequences of burn pits and other toxic substances continue to be studied, the veteran community is witnessing a rise in rare cancers and other illnesses. We must ensure our veterans receive quality health care for these illnesses. The Toxic Exposure in the American Military (TEAM) Act supports veterans by:

- Granting the VA health care enrollment in Priority Group 6 to veterans who served in areas of known toxic exposure and creating mechanisms for the enrollment of veterans who may be exposed to toxic substances in the future.
- Establishing an advisory commission to review toxic exposures and recommend independent studies to the VA and Congress.
- Requiring the VA to respond to whether illnesses associated with toxic exposure by scientific ic evidence should be added as presumptive conditions.



# Congress: Enact these bills to support comprehensive toxic exposure reform

### Cosponsor the Veterans Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act, S. 437/H.R. 2436

 Concede exposure for those who served where burn pits were used in Southwest Asia.

Increase reporting, transparency, and oversight of established presumptives and special interest conditions.

### Cosponsor the Toxic Exposure in the American Military (TEAM) Act, S. 927/H.R. 2127

- Support health care for exposed servicemembers.
- Create an advisory committee to recommend research.
- Require the VA to respond to scientific evidence associating diseases with toxic exposures.



Military kids currently impacted by this issue were toddlers or preschoolers on 9/11 and made many sacrifices as part of military families.

### Parity for TRICARE Young Adults

#### Background

We urge Congress to fix a TRICARE eligibility gap for young adults that has existed for more than a decade. Commercial plans that offer dependent child coverage are required to make the coverage available until the adult child reaches the age of 26. There is no separate premium for families who elect to keep adult children on commercial plans. This protects young adults' access to affordable health care even if they elect to pursue advanced degrees or face barriers obtaining their own employer-sponsored coverage.

In contrast, TRICARE policy terminates coverage for voung adults at age 21 (or 23 if a full-time student). The FY 2011 National Defense Authorization Act established TRICARE Young Adult (TYA) extending eligibility to age 26 but, unlike families covered by commercial plans, TYA enrollees are required by law to cover the full cost of the program via a separate monthly premium. For 2021, the monthly premium to cover a young adult is \$459 for TYA Prime (up 22% versus 2020) and \$257 for TYA Select (up 13% versus 2020).

## TRICARE Young Adult Program Is Not Sustainable

Young adult health care coverage is an issue that can impact any military family, but it is particularly important for career servicemembers and their families who are most likely to be covered by TRICARE when their children reach adulthood. In 2018, approximately 85% of TYA enrollees were the children of working-age retirees while 15% were the children of active duty families.

TYA premiums have increased dramatically since the program's inception,

leading to lower enrollment and a beneficiary pool skewed toward those with chronic medical conditions. TYA Prime premiums are up 160% since 2012 (an average annual increase of more than 14%) while the cost of TYA Select has grown 69% (up more than 7% per year, on average.)

As premiums have increased, the number of healthy young adults enrolling in TYA has declined. That results in a beneficiary pool — particularly for TYA Prime — with a disproportionate number of young adults who have significant medical needs. These needs, with fewer beneficiaries covering program costs, lead to further premium increases, creating a cycle of higher costs and fewer families paying them. This process likely will continue until TYA is no longer a viable program.

### Military Health System Reform Should Mean More Than Just Fee Increases

Military Health System (MHS) reforms passed into law with the FY 2017 NDAA have meant one hit after another in terms of out-of-pocket costs, particularly for retirees.

Since 2018, provider office visit copays have more than doubled. Pharmacy copays have increased twice, while a growing number of prescription drugs are no longer covered by TRICARE at all. As of Jan 1, 2021, retirees on TRI-CARE Select have an all-new enrollment fee and a higher catastrophic cap. Retirees are also being moved out of military treatment facilities, where their care was free, and into the civilian network, where they face cost sharing.

MHS reform should be about more than just shifting costs

to beneficiaries. Eliminating TYA premiums not only brings TRICARE on par with other employer sponsored plans, but it also targets an improvement at a beneficiary segment that is paying significantly more out of pocket as a result of MHS reform. And these changes should not come at the expense of others who've earned their benefits: MOAA opposes funding this expansion by raising TRICARE fees or cutting other uniformed services programs.

### Military Kids Serve, Too

We appreciate Congress and DoD have recognized the unique challenges military kids face. According to the Department of Defense Education Activity, the average child in a military family will move six to nine times during their school years. Deployments and other family separations are also a fact of life for military kids, and a growing body of research shows many kids suffer emotional and educational impacts from these experiences. Yet current TRICARE policy leaves military kids transitioning into adulthood without the same health care protections afforded to families with commercial health care plans.

Ensuring health care access and affordability is particularly important during the current pandemic. As COVID-19 impacts higher education pathways and makes it more difficult for young adults to find jobs, we must ensure military families who have sacrificed so much in support of our nation have the same health care protections for their young adult children as their civilian counterparts covered by commercial plans.



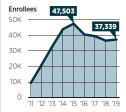
### Congress: Support H.R. 475, The Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act

Please ensure military families have the same health care protections for their young adult children as their civilian counterparts covered by commercial plans.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

#### **ENROLLMENT DECLINE**

TYA Enrollment has declined 21% since its peak in 2015.





#### MONTHLY PREMIUMS

2021 has seen an increase of 22% for Prime and 13% for Select.



SOURCE: ANNUAL EVALUATION OF THE TRICARE PROGRAM



## Growing Chapter Membership: The Tools You Need





## **3 Core Factors**



## "Move off the Solution" Formula



## "The Move"



Move to "PROBLEMS"
the member wants to address
or
Move to "RESULTS"
the member wants to achieve

## "Structure the Conversation" Steps

- Get a quick list of the issues.
- Make sure the list is complete.
- Find out which issue is most important to the prospective member.
- Go in depth develop evidence and impact.
- Summarize.
  - Did I get it right? Did I leave anything out?

## **Skill Sets: Resolving Yellow Lights**

- Slow down for Yellow Lights
- Yellow Lights are an opportunity to express your intent and desire to create mutual value.
- If you are going to hit a red light, the sooner the better.
- A red light is not a failure.
   Failure is making a red light needlessly more expensive.



### **Billboards**

### A Verbal Billboard is CONCISE

- Think and Speak in headlines
- Link to the prospective member's needs/issues
- Show relevant benefit to the prospective member

## **MOAA National Example**

### MOAA Partners with YOU:

- To take you FROM not having any career transition plan TO building a personalized plan NOW
- Coaching you along the way instead of letting you figure this out by yourself
- Getting you job-ready quicker than what non-military career advisors would do

What would you like to know a little bit more about?



## **Billboard Formula**

### [Attention grabbing statement]

- 1. supporting evidence
  - 2. Feature / benefit
- 3. From X  $\rightarrow$  To Y statement

[Call to Action!]

## Make Your Own Billboard

## Create your own billboard for the following topics:

- Advocacy
- Networking
- Community Service
- Surviving Spouse Involvement

## **Growing Chapter Membership**





## What is the Committee Module?

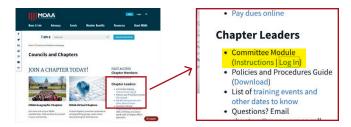
- Your online chapter 'roster'
  - Shows changes you make in real time.
  - Provides chapter member information.
- Your monthly recruiting list
  - Replaces the previously provided semiannual report.

## **Committee Module Access**

- Accessed via the MOAA website
- Two officers from each chapter have access.
  - Default is president and membership chair.
  - To substitute, please contact us at chapters@moaa.org or (800) 234-6622.
- MOAA member login is used.

## **Updated Way to Log In**

- Go to moaa.org.
- Go to About MOAA.
- Click on Councils and Chapters
- Click on Committee Module Login.



## View All and Sort

 Make sure to click 'View All' (blue arrow) and sort by 'Last/First Name' (yellow arrow) before making changes



## **Adding Chapter Members**

- Use the 'Add Chapter Member or Officer' button.
  - You will need their email address or member number (customer ID number).
- Enter in their chapter membership information.

## **Removing Members/Officers**

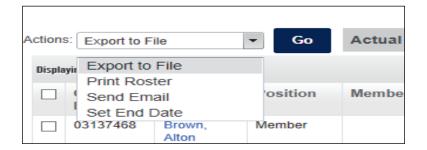
- Adding an end date removes them from the current module but does not delete their record.
- Chapter members need an end date when they leave the chapter.
- Officers need an end date when they are no longer in that position.
  - Only on the position that they hold
- Important distinction: If a member has two listings on the Committee Module as a 'Member,' please inform us so we can remove their duplicate record.

## Multiple Listings



## **Other Committee Module Actions**

- Listed on the 'Actions:' drop down menu.
- Actions can be done on everyone whose box has been checked on the left.



### **Member Contact Information**

- In order to protect our member's privacy, contact information cannot be changed directly on the Committee Module.
  - If you have confirmed that someone's information is incorrect on the module, please feel free to email our Member Service Center at msc@moaa.org.

## Newest Update: Near Real Time Notification

As of Aug. 1, 2019, all Committee Module administrators now have access to retrieve reports on:

- 1) Brand-new MOAA members in the catchment area (Basic, Premium, or LIFE)
- 2) MOAA members who recently moved into the chapter's catchment area
- 3) Members in the area who recently opted in to receive chapter communications
- 4) No Contact Report MOAA members who do not wish to be contacted by chapters

The report will only include names of members whose status changed as above from the previous month.

For example, the August Excel report will only have names only from July 1 through July 31, 2019. September's list will only have names from Aug. 1 through Aug. 31, 2019.

## How to Access Near Real Time Notification

Go to the front page of the Committee Module.
There will be a hyperlink marked "Details for: Your Chapter Name".

Select this link to get to the NRT notification.

MY PROFILE ROSTER

My Account My Groups Julie's Test Chapter

Last Name:

City:

Sudes Front Name:

City:

Chapter Information Form

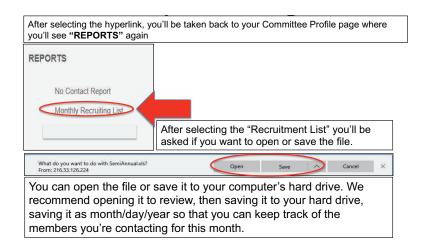
Actions: Export to File:

Supplying 1-2st of 33

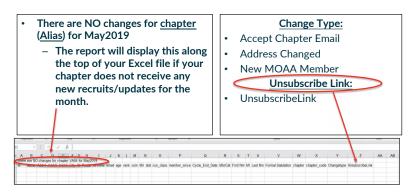
Chapter Momber of Officer

Status Information From/To Contact Information Status Information Status Information Contact Voting Status Information Contact Voting Status Information Status Information Contact Voting Status Information Contact Voting Status Information Status Information Status Information Contact Voting Active V

## **Monthly Recruiting List**

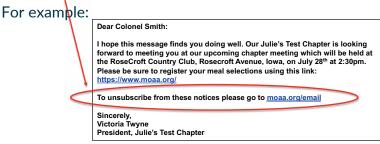


## Monthly Recruiting List Column Headings



## Include the 'Unsubscribe Link' in Your Email to New Recruits

When crafting your email message to new recruits, you must include the "unsubscribe link" in your email message.



The unsubscribe link allows recruits to "opt out" of receiving your email messages.

When MOAA receives opt out notices from members, this will be added to the "No Contact Report" on the following month when you log into the Committee Module.

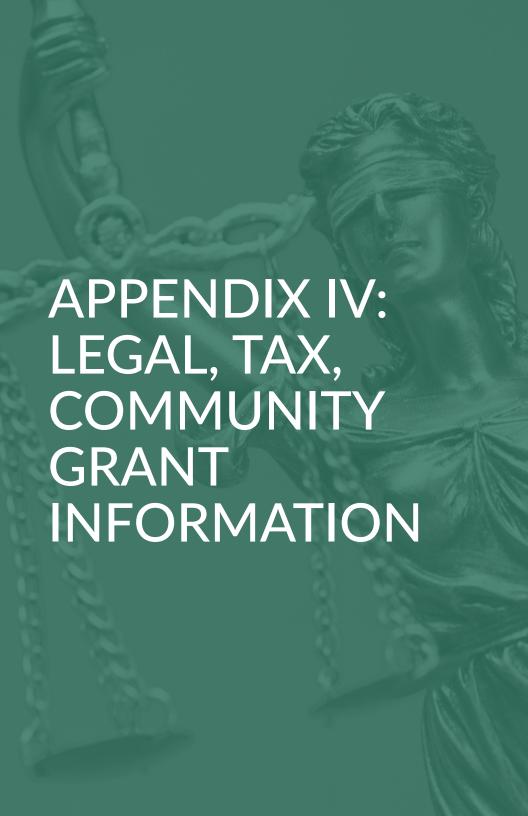
The unsubscribe link is included on the Excel report in the last column for anyone who has opted in to receive chapter emails/communications.

### **Use of MOAA Email Addresses**

- These email addresses are provided by national MOAA exclusively for use by the chapter in official chapter communications for the purpose of recruiting new members. Any use of the addresses provided is governed by the following restrictions.
  - The email addresses provided by national MOAA may only be used for official chapter communications inviting the addressees to join the chapter, attend chapter events, or participate in chapter activities.
  - No more than three email messages may be sent to any addressee during a single calendar year.
  - The email list may not be shared with any other organization or individual without the advance written authorization of the Director, Council and Chapter Affairs.
  - Any files containing MOAA-provided email addresses will be maintained in a secure manner, password-protected and accessible only by authorized chapter officers.
  - Once an individual joins the chapter and becomes a chapter member, their email
    address may be added to the chapter's membership records and normal chapter
    correspondence from that date forward may occur. However, in today's environment
    it is prudent for chapter leadership to routinely take the appropriate steps to ensure
    the security and safe guarding of all members sensitive personal information.

## Other Helpful Resources

- Committee Module Instructional Guide
- Near Real Time Notification Guide
- chapters@moaa.org
- Member Service Center at (800) 234-6622



## Legal Tidbits for Effective Council & Chapter Management

### References

- MOAA Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide
- Association Law Handbook

### Incorporation

- Chapters are affiliated with national MOAA but are separate legal entities. They need to obtain their own Employer ID number (EIN) from the IRS and seek their own IRS determination of tax-exempt status.
- MOAA recommends every chapter become incorporated as a nonprofit organization.
- Incorporation protects chapter officers and members from personal liability for chapter obligations.
- A chapter's articles of incorporation, which set forth the chapter's purpose, are separate from its bylaws, but the two documents should be consistent with one another.

### **Liability Insurance**

- Every chapter is encouraged to obtain liability coverage to protect it from lawsuits resluting from bodily injury and property damage at chapter-sponsored activities.
- The decision to obtain liability insurance is best approached through the concept of risk management
  - Identifying a chapter's risks starts by considering what chapter activities could result in a claim.
  - Securing competitive bids is advisable and should include an analysis of coverage, rather than focusing on price alone.

### **Checking Accounts**

- Chapters should have an independent chapter checking account.
- Authority to sign checks and any qualifications to that authority should be clarified by the chapter's board of directors.
- Chapters should establish an electronic funds transfer account with MOAA headquarters to facilitate disbursement of earned monetary incentives and awards.

### Council - Chapter Relationship

- There is no relationship similar to a military chain of command between a council and its member chapters.
- All chapters are strongly encouraged to join their state council and keep their state council president informed of significant chapter events and visits by MOAA national officers.

## **Income Tax Considerations**

- MOAA recommends every chapter seek exemption from federal corporate income taxes.
- Chapters should seek recognition of exemption under the IRS Code Section 501(c)(19) as a veterans' organization.
  - To qualify, at least 75 percent of its members must be past or present members of the U.S. armed forces.
- A chapter with tax-exempt status and normal gross receipts of \$50,000 or less annually is not required to file a federal tax return (IRS Form 990)
  - A chapter with less than \$50,000 in gross receipts may be required to file an IRS Form 990N, which includes evidence of continued qualification for its tax exemption.

## 501(c)(19) vs. 501(c)(3)

### 501(c)(19)

### Mission:

Authorized to lobby state or federal officials on public policy, in addition to other charitable, educational, and community welfare activities

### **Tax Status:**

Organization exempt from federal taxation

### Source of Income:

Primarily dues

### Payments/Donations:

Not deductible to the donor (in most cases)

### **IRS Requirements:**

To be granted exempt status, no less than 75% of members must be veterans of U.S. armed forces

### 501(c)(3)

#### Mission:

Engage in charitable, educational, and community welfare activities. Lobbying activities restricted.

### **Tax Status:**

Organization exempt from federal taxation

### **Source of Income:**

Primarily donations from the public or from members

### **Payments/Donations:**

Tax deductible to the donor

#### **IRS Requirements:**

To be granted exempt status, 1/3 of revenue must come from public donations

### **Need more information?**

Contact MOAA's Senior Program Director of Council and Chapter Affairs, CAPT Erin Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret.) at (703) 838-8108 or via email at ErinS@moaa.org

## FAQs on the MOAA Foundation Community Outreach Grant Program

### When can we apply for a grant, and how do we apply?

The online grant application period opens Dec. 1, 2021, and closes Feb. 28, 2022. Apply at <a href="https://www.moaa.org/foundation">www.moaa.org/foundation</a>. Just click on the "Grants" tab to read the grant criteria to apply online.

### What kinds of programs will a grant support?

- Housing
- Employment
- Family Strength
- Financial Assistance
- Transportation

- Food Assistance
- Health (Including Behavioral Health)
- Community Reintegration
- Legal Assistance

### How much will the grant be for?

The maximum award for a grant is \$5,000 per chapter.

### Are all councils/chapters eligible?

Absolutely. Any council or chapter may apply.

## Can we use grant money to pay for the gold-bar program or the ROTC/JROTC medals program?

No, grant funds may only be used for programs benefitting military and veteran families of all ranks and their survivors. MOAA Foundation grant funding may not be used for MOAA member-only or member-recruitment programs.

### Do we have to be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit to get a grant?

No, any MOAA entity may receive a grant, but they must be actively involved in the program supported by the grant, and they must have authority over how the funds are spent.

## We have [their suggested local program]. Can we apply for a grant to support that program?

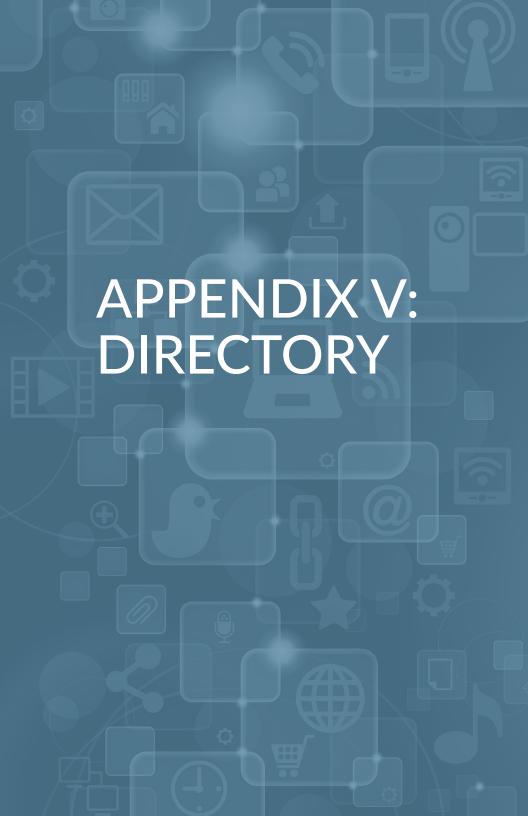
We encourage you to apply for a grant for any program you feel supports military families in your community, however it must comply with the grant criteria.

## Can the council apply for a large grant and disburse sub-grants using the council's own criteria?

No, sub-grants by MOAA councils are not permitted.

### Who can I call at MOAA national to discuss more details about the program?

If you have additional questions, feel free to call Amanda Centers, MOAA VP of Development, at (703) 838-8115 or send her an email at *AmandaC@moaa.org*.



## **MOAA Council & Chapter Affairs**



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CAPT Frank J. Michael, USN (Ret) Program Director FrankM@moaa.org (703) 838-5818



Victoria Twyne
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VictoriaT@moaa.org
(703) 838-8118







Jonathan Woodruff Chapter Affairs Specialist Organizational Analysis JonW@moaa.org (703) 838-8168

MOAA Member Service Center 1(800) 234-MOAA (6622) Monday – Friday, 8 am - 6 pm Eastern Time

## **MOAA Government Relations**



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