

## *2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wounded Warrior Hiring and Support Conference*

*Sponsored by the Department of the Navy*

### *Hiring Our Nation's Heroes*

#### **Background:**

There are currently over 12,000 wounded, ill or injured service members transitioning out of the military on any given month. Many are seeking civilian employment. But for some, reintegration into the civilian workforce in the face of the current economic downturn poses a significant challenge. In addition to weeks, months or years of recovery, they face the potential of unemployment. On average, one in four new wounded warriors join the unemployment rolls every day. We have a moral obligation to support our nation's heroes and assist them in finding meaningful careers so that they may continue to serve our nation.

The Department of the Navy (DoN) is dedicated to hiring our wounded warriors and supporting them in the workplace. Last year, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASN M&RA) established the DoN Wounded Warrior Hiring and Support Initiative. This initiative aims to coordinate wounded warrior employment effort and ultimately increase wounded warrior employability by ensuring they have access to education, training and employment opportunities. ASN M&RA recognized Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) as one of the nation's best at recruiting wounded veterans. In the two years since NAVSEA established its Wounded Warrior program, NAVSEA has successfully developed and executed an enterprise-wide initiative to attract, recruit and retain disabled service members. NAVSEA and ASN M&RA continue to share their best practices across Department of Defense (DoD). As a result, several other U.S. Navy Systems Commands and the Office of Civilian Human Resources now have vibrant Wounded Warrior employment and education initiatives. They have partnered with other federal agencies to leverage resources and collaborate with the private sector in their efforts to support military families.

#### **Purpose of the conference:**

The purpose of the conference is to bring together government, military and industry leaders that are committed to hiring and supporting wounded warriors in the workplace. These leaders and organizations will share their mission, vision, and success stories. They will also make available their best practices and lessons learned on veteran hiring and retention. This forum will also provide useful tools and resources to build and sustain a successful infrastructure to recruit, hire, train and retain our wounded warriors in the civilian workplace.

#### **Intended Audience:**

Senior federal, military and industry leaders along with their respective human resource professionals.

#### **Proposed Key Note Speakers:**

- Secretary of the Navy, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Chief of Naval Operations, Commander of Naval Sea Systems Command
- Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy
- Departments of Labor, Veterans Affairs, OPM Senior Representatives
- Private Sector CEOs

#### **Logistics:**

Date: 9 – 10 November, 2011

Location: Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner, (8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA)