



## 2014 Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

April 23 & 24, 2014 - Phoenix, Arizona

### Event Recap





## SYMPOSIUM PLANNING PARTNERS



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On day one of the Symposium, we opened with the posting of the colors by the **United States Marine Corps** color guard, accompanied by the **Phoenix Fire Department Pipes & Drums**.

The keynote address was given by **Ted Vogt**, Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, Title Sponsor of the Symposium.



*"Great event, great collaboration!"*

*"Lots of practical strategies to take away and apply."*

The Symposium included **five different tracks over two days** with an array of breakout sessions that ranged from panel discussions to research reviews to practical application demonstrations on a range of issues affecting service members, veterans & their families.

“Breakout sessions were great; I had a tough time choosing which ones to attend!”



“I know this is a massive event to pull off every year, but every year, it gets better and better. The breakout sessions were some of the best I have ever attended!”

“Good selection of speakers...informative!”



On the morning of day two **Colonel James P. Eisenhower, III, Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs and Director of Warrior and Family Support**, provided the keynote address on public/private partnerships and the challenges of reintegration.

He recognized the efforts and progress Arizona has made over the past five years with our nationally-recognized capacity-building model, calling our collective efforts a “national treasure.” Colonel Eisenhower then participated in a fireside chat and a community roundtable.



**43 organizations had exhibitor tables** at the Symposium, representing military, government and community resources and providing opportunities for information sharing and networking.



“The Symposium was well-planned and filled with a great balance of resources. We came away with so many places to turn to if our group needs help.”

“This event is awesome...I did not realize there are so many resources.”



Lunch at the Symposium was a time for networking and also for a cultural experience. On both days, participants could sign up for an optional experience to participate in an **Iraqi tea ceremony**. A former U.S. Army Civil Affairs officer walked people through the ceremony and talked about how service members interacted with the local communities while deployed.

*“Love, love, love, love your symposium!”*

*“As always, a great event in support of the military community.”*



**350 representatives of military, government and community organizations participated in the 2014 Symposium.**



*“Great event...LOTS of helpful information!”*

**99% of attendee surveys indicated they would consider recommending the Symposium to their colleagues.**

*“Impressed with the immensity of importance of the mission ACMF has taken on. In a word, [I am] “hopeful” in regards to the plight of our veterans and families and their future, especially in Arizona.”*

*Also, with all of the bad press about predatory, aggressive organizations trying to capitalize on veterans it is good to see and be a part of the work being done here...again, HOPEFUL!”*



# Special thanks to our 2014 Symposium Event Sponsors for your support of the military/veteran community!



Arizona Governor's Council  
on Spinal and Head Injuries



*Your partner for a safe, strong, and healthy community.*

