State of Science Symposia Series; The Role of Not-for-Profit Organizations in the Care of Wounded, Injured, and Ill Veterans

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Easter Seals & Dixon Center for Military and Veterans Community Services: A Partnership

“Helping Veterans and their families to thrive where they live”
Why Easter Seals & Dixon Center?

- Dedicated to supporting Military Service Members, Veterans, their Families, and the Families of the Fallen
- Direct military service
- Decades of experience in military and veteran services
- Embraced as Easter Seals national priority in 2005/2013
- Partnership launched with Dixon Center in 2012
- Leverage expertise and capacity
- Community-based and focused: local impact & national reach
- Collaboration with military and veterans service organizations
- Partnerships with nonprofits, corporations, foundations and government
Easter Seals Overview

• Nonprofit, founded in 1919, to provide community services for children with disabilities
• Current Network: 72 affiliates in U.S.; also global
• 1.4 million individuals and families served
• Extensive, comprehensive network of home and community-based services
• Over 27,000 employees and 40,000 volunteers
• Individual, Corporate, and Government Partners
• $1.6 Billion in revenues
Community-Based Military and Veterans Services

- Employment
- Transition/Community Reintegration
- Mental Health Services and Supports
- Housing Services and Support
- Assistive Technology
- Adult Day Services
- Family Support and Respite
- Recreation and Camp
Nationwide Services for Military, Veterans and Families

- Community OneSource℠
- Operation Employ Veterans™
- National Veterans Caregiver Training Program
- Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative
- Homeless Veterans Supportive Employment Program
Nationwide Services for Military, Veterans and Families

- Community Programs and Projects (Selected):
  - Cincinnati, Syracuse, Indianapolis – Employment & Reintegration
  - St. Cloud, MN – Mental Health
  - Washington, DC – Veterans Staffing Network
  - New Jersey – Support for Women Veterans and their families
  - New Hampshire – Deployment Cycle Support for Guard & Reserve
  - Southern California - Employment
  - Southeast Wisconsin – Rally Point and Employment
Dixon Center/Easter Seals
Model for Collaboration and Change

- Dixon Center
- Easter Seals National
- Easter Seals Affiliate Network

**Strengthening Communities, Systems Change & Capacity**

**Direct Services & Solutions**
"Dave Sutherland, of Dixon Center, has defined the American model of excellence for the successful reintegration of our Veterans and Military Families. From his tireless work in the Pentagon to the emergence of Dixon Center, Sutherland inspires and encourages all of us to break down the silos and never forget to put the Veteran and their needs first. His and Kim Mitchell's vision for collaboration and consolidation will greatly help our country drive the systemic changes that our brave Veterans and their families deserve."
DIXON CENTER
Enabling Our Veterans and Their Families to Thrive Where They Live

Innovative Approaches that Harness Existing, Community-Based Support to Deliver Profound Results for Military Veterans and their Families

**Overarching Goals Relative to Veterans and Their Families**

- Advise and Assist Community Leaders on How to Find and Focus on Essential Needs
- Help Communities Mobilize Partners and Resources to Support Education, Employment, and Wellness Goals
- Facilitate Effective Solutions in Communities to Strengthen Collective Impact
- Build Capacity and Expand Direct Services – locally through Easter Seals and the Collective Sea of Goodwill
Model Of Excellence

- Employment -

- Access To Health Care -

- Education -

Improved Quality Of Life

“Veterans, Military Families and Families of the Fallen”
Impact
42 States, 400 Communities
DIXON CENTER

Sampling of Whole of Society Activities

Employment:
• **Sharing** innovations with local employers; hiring managers; trades, and hiring managers so they can recruit, train, integrate, and retain veterans and their families
• **Creating** credentialing and licensing solutions that includes outreach, training, and placement

Education:
• **Training and Advising** all levels of education: K-12, and Degree Producing Institutions to enable achievement of graduation goals

Access to Health Care:
• **Promoting Solutions and Building Capacity** as a resource and technical assistance center for a national network of community-based service providers and local, state and federal agencies that provide everything from health services, housing, access to legal and financial services, and case management support for tens of thousands of veterans and their families
Easter Seals and Dixon Center Partnership: Looking Ahead

- Outreach to Veterans and Their Families from all Generations
- Service, Support and Advocacy for and with Veterans and Their Families
- Engagement across Thousands of Communities
- Engagement with Array of Public and Private Stakeholders to Be Inclusive
- Partnerships with Existing Community-Based Organizations
- Promote Community Consolidation and Collaboration
MEASURING SUCCESS

PROGRAM
Stand Up & Replicability

POLICY
Positive Change

SUSTAINABILITY
Fully Resourced

COMMUNITY
Consolidation, Collaboration
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Thank You