

VETERAN Success Project

INVESTING IN REAL HEROES

Brought to you by
The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation
Issue 1, December 2017

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Investing in Real Heroes!*



This monthly newsletter will shine a bright light into the activities and investments being made in direct support of our veterans. With timely and current stories, our goal is to provide you with information that you need in order to refer, engage and invest in Maricopa Community Colleges vibrant veteran community. We look forward to sharing our success with you and we're excited to open the doors to future dialogue in support of those who have served.



Serving Those Who Served

Transitioning out of the military can be a confusing time. Within 30-days, military members and their families may lose both their employment and housing. They are moving from an environment where most decisions are made for them and at the same time, losing their support systems, culture and personal identity. It can feel like running downhill without an idea of which path to take.

The Veterans Success Project is a way for the Maricopa Community Colleges to respond to the challenges our veterans face as they transition from the military to civilian life. The project, initiated in July 2015, includes several projects that will increase services offered to veterans and their dependents. To read how the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation undertook a

Your Support Matters

You can make a difference in the lives of our veterans by making a gift to the Veterans Success Project today through the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. Not only will your gift provide veterans with the essentials they need, it will go towards long-lasting assistance towards Veterans Centers and other proposed items within the Project, dependent on raising funds to support them.

**Support Veteran
Success Today**

Quick Links

[The Veteran Success Project](#)

[Maricopa Community Colleges Veterans Services](#)

[Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation](#)

Let's Hear From You

Do you have an interesting veteran's story you'd like featured? [Click here](#) and tell us all about it.

Do you have questions about the Veterans Success

\$14 million fundraising campaign to support this effort [click here](#).

Campus Connections

The Maricopa Community Colleges have a long history of providing education and training, allowing veterans to enhance existing skills, gain new skills, and translate military training and experience into a rewarding career. That's why all 10 campuses have a Veteran Services Office – each existing to support veterans who are attending a Maricopa Community College either online or in the classroom.



Our Veterans Services Offices help with applying for education benefits and enrollment, and also provide:

- Academic Advising
- Career Services
- Counseling
- Disability Resources and Services
- Financial Aid
- Scholarship Opportunities
- Tutoring Services

To connect with an office near you visit: [Maricopa Community College Veterans Colleges Resources](#)

Military and Veterans Success Center Opens at Luke Air Force Base

November 9th marked the long awaited grand opening of the nation's first community supported, case-managed, holistic support center for transitioning military, veterans and dependents.



Located at Luke Air Force Base, the Military and Veterans Success Center – West Valley now serves as a convenient location for transitioning service members, veterans and their families to seek employment, education and community service referrals.

With case management services, the service member or Veteran works directly with someone who will walk with them each step of the way.

The Military and Veterans Success Center – West Valley will provide mentors as well as supportive and transitioning services to spouses. The Center will offer a children's playing area, along with multiple computer

Project? [Click here](#).

Next Month:
Veterans Benefit from Insurance Program Scholarships



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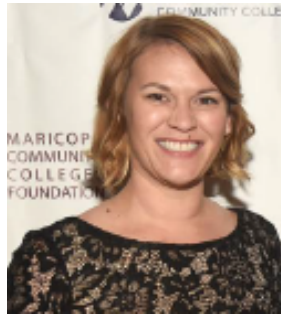
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stations that can be used for resume building, resource connecting, applying for employment and more. Workshops geared toward the needs of service members and resource fairs will be available to the public as well.

Photo courtesy of: U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Caleb Worpel

Student Spotlight

Lauren Knickerbocker, is an Army Veteran who served in Afghanistan. Lauren speaks candidly about the things she's experienced during her deployment and how it led her on a path to go back to school at Glendale Community College and why she wanted to become a nurse. **"Because of my**



experiences in the Army, I have a new appreciation for continuing my education and a willingness to buckle down. There is no slacking. I'm more determined than ever to get my nursing degree." On campus, Lauren finds guidance at the Veterans Center. She says it's tough, after witnessing the things she's seen to sit in a classroom all day. She views the Center as her "safe place" where she can relax and receive support. "Veterans can just go in there, get their questions answered and obtain all the help they need."

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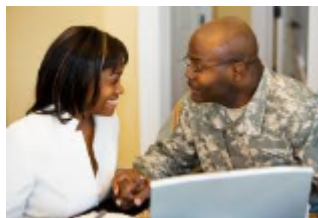
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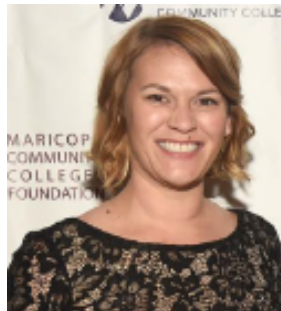
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