



Resolution: In support of coordination between women elected officials and the Community Blueprint Initiative in order to provide a common framework for communities to produce positive, measurable outcomes for veterans, military members and their families.

Ratified: November 2012

WHEREAS, 3,000 service members transition back into society daily, and it has been proven that they will face many new challenges in the areas of reintegration, employment, education, financial legal, behavioral health, housing, and family stability; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent statistics released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the unemployment rate of post 9-11 veterans is 13.3%, compared to a non-veteran rate of 7.8%; and

WHEREAS, according to RealtyTrac, more than 20,000 veterans and service members lost their homes to foreclosure in 2010 and foreclosure rates for this population have not been that high since 2003 and nearly 20% of the national homeless population are veterans; and

WHEREAS, the suicide rate of veterans in the 18 – 29 age bracket is 56.77% per 100,000, nearly five times the rate of comparably aged civilians; and

WHEREAS, the existing national, state, and local service providers struggle to assist with the increased volume of needs for military service members, veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, the need for collaborative partnerships to provide wrap-around services and real-time assistance for military members, veterans and their families is more pronounced than ever; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has established the Veteran Leader Corps (VLC) which currently operates in seven states and its members serve in volunteer centers and workforce development nonprofits while they enhance their leadership skills by supporting America's soldiers; and

WHEREAS, the Points of Light Foundation builds and scales training, education and signature programs to address critical needs and build stronger communities, with programs that are focused on the environment, education, economy, emergency preparedness, and veterans and military families; and

WHEREAS, the CNCS has partnered with and supports the Points of Light Foundation's Community Blueprint Initiative, which aims to scale solutions that work to address reintegration challenges faced by veterans by utilizing AmeriCorps national service members to provide community members with meaningful ways to connect with and serve veterans, and to engage veterans to serve other veterans and their communities through the implementation of eight impact areas; and

WHEREAS, the Community Blueprint Initiative is committed to increasing opportunities for 1) building capacity into existing programs and services through the implementation of a framework that fosters collaboration and coordination among government agencies and service providers in the community and 2) for incorporating service through the national AmeriCorps program through community volunteerism; **NOW**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Foundation for Women Legislators urges support and coordination between women elected officials and the Community Blueprint Initiative in order to provide a common framework for communities to produce positive, measurable outcomes for veterans, military members and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NFWL does hereby formally honor all of those that have honorably served in the United States military, answering the call to duty, and does further recognize the important role that veterans and their families play in shaping this great nation.

THE POWER TO MAKE THE DIFFERENCE FOR YOU

WWW.WOMENLEGISLATORS.ORG * ROBIN REARD, PRESIDENT & CEO * EVENTS@WOMENLEGISLATORS.ORG

910 16TH STREET, NW, SUITE 100 WASHINGTON, DC 20006 202-293-3040 FAX 202-293-5430

The Foundation qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under 501-c-3 of the Internal Revenue Code, Tax ID number **52-1480785**