New Year. New Goals. Same Mission.

2021 began with MSEP partners creating hundreds of goals ranging from establishing reporting procedures to facilitating workforce programs. A special thank you to our partners for being diligent in their progress and accomplishing the goals for their organizations. It is now time to create goals for 2022!

Associate Director, Military and Community Support Programs, Mr. Eddy Mentzer, challenged partners during the 2021 Annual Partner Meeting to increase the awareness of MSEP in their business communities and encourage military spouse hiring, as the number of new military spouses continues to increase by 100,000 each year. Mr. Mentzer stressed the importance of reporting spouse hires and identifying new, like minded organizations for the partnership. We hope this inspires your new goals as we continue to advance the mission of MSEP.

We encourage you to be bold with creating and achieving this year’s goals. Below are a few ideas to help you identify and communicate your military spouse hiring and engagement goals for the year.

1. **Be SMART** - Set SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound) goals designed to further your military spouse program. Consider goals such as specifying a number of military spouse hires for the year, creating a military spouse resource group or attending a few military community events quarterly.

2. **Communicate the Need** - Individuals throughout your organization need to understand the reason behind the goals that have been set. Why military spouse employment? Communicate the *what* and *why* to members throughout your organization to build momentum and strengthen your organization’s commitment to the military community.

3. **Develop an Action Plan** - Developing a plan of implementation is important to large-scale projects and goals such as creating a workforce program or designing a reporting method. By breaking down a goal into more manageable steps, progress toward the ultimate goal is easier to track and celebrate.

Your MSEP specialist is a great resource and eager to discuss your organization’s goals for MSEP. We look forward to partnering with you to create 2022 goals and make tremendous strides in military spouse employment over the next year.

It’s Partner Directory time!

MSEP specialists will be contacting you to inquire about any updates.
National Mentoring Month
January is National Mentoring Month! It is important to remember mentoring partnerships are mutually beneficial and rewarding. Mentors can develop leadership skills and gain a personal sense of satisfaction from helping others. Mentees can expand their knowledge and skills, gain valuable insight from more seasoned professionals and expand their professional networks. Both participants can improve their communication skills, embrace new ways of thinking and advance their careers.

We know several MSEP partners offer mentorship programs and encourage you to take this opportunity to learn more about our partners in the Spouse Ambassador Network and how you and your organization can mentor military spouses.

To learn more about National Mentoring Month, please visit https://www.mentoring.org/.

Military Spouse of the Month: Adriana, Social Security Administration
This month, MSEP is happy to highlight a military spouse who is currently working with one of our awesome MSEP employers. Adriana has been working with the Social Security Administration for more than a year as a human resources specialist.

Adriana stated, “My passion and motivation has always been to serve others. I joined public service because I wanted to feel part of something greater than myself and to make a difference, and what better employer to work for than one who provides a wealth of resources and programs to ensure the physical and financial wellbeing of our communities nationwide and abroad.”

Adriana encourages other military spouses to educate themselves on the resources available to military spouses, including education programs, internships, resume builders and career representatives.

Thank you, Social Security Administration for supporting the MSEP mission and thank you Adriana for sharing your experience with us. We wish you continued success!

MSEP Spotlight: Adecco USA
MSEP congratulates Adecco USA on the 20th anniversary of their Adecco Military Alliance for Veterans and Military Spouses. The program was started in 2002 as a military spouse hiring initiative with outreach programs on Navy installations to identify a talented pool of military spouse candidates during the War in Afghanistan. Since then, it has grown to include veterans and wounded warriors in an effort to support recruiting opportunities for the entire military family.

Adecco USA has been an MSEP partner since 2004 and has hired more than 1,500 military spouses. We are excited to celebrate this huge milestone of one our legacy partners and their innovation and commitment to the military spouse community.

Spouse Ambassador Network Update: RallyPoint
As part of it’s commitment to support MSEP employers, RallyPoint has committed to interviewing, writing and publishing spouse success stories of your military spouse employees. The stories will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If you wish to submit a spouse success story, please contact SpouseSuccessStories@RallyPoint.com. For more information on RallyPoint, click here.

Facebook
♦ If your organization is interested in participating in an upcoming live event, please contact your MSEP specialist.
♦ The DOD will continue the Military Spouse of the Week campaign to spotlight dynamic military spouses. To submit a testimonial and photo of a military spouse that works at your company or organization, please contact your MSEP specialist for the spouse testimonial form and submit it to osd.msepjobs@mail.mil.
LinkedIn

MSEP LinkedIn Spouse Group - [https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4159976/profile](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4159976/profile)
- Please join our MSEP LinkedIn Spouse Group page and share your open positions. This is an excellent way to share hot jobs directly with our military spouse population! In addition to sharing information about vacancies, the SECO program office hosts MSEP networking series discussions for military spouses to connect with MSEP employers’ human resources professionals and hiring managers. To join, please visit [https://www.linkedin.com/company/military-spouse-employment-partnership-msep-/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/military-spouse-employment-partnership-msep-/)
- Spouses of military members are eligible for a free upgrade to LinkedIn Premium. To learn more about this program, please visit [https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Media/Default/PDFs/seco-linkedinfactsheet.pdf](https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Media/Default/PDFs/seco-linkedinfactsheet.pdf).
- Thank you to Teamsters Union/Teamsters Military Assistance Program for participating in the December MSEP Partner Connect live event!

MSEP LinkedIn Partner Group - [https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4445979/profile](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4445979/profile)
- New and enduring partners use the MSEP LinkedIn Partner Group page to share lessons learned, recruitment strategies, resources and tools, and engage on hot topics of interest.
- If your organization is interested in hosting a group discussion, please contact your MSEP specialist.

SECO Social Media Platforms

Follow the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities program:

- [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)
- [Twitter](https://twitter.com)
- [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com)

Remember to use the hashtags #MSEPJobs and #MilSpouse to increase your organization’s exposure and build your military-friendly brand.

Additional Useful Links

SECO Event Calendar: [https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/events](https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/events)


Military Installations: [https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/](https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/)

Spouse Ambassador Network: [https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Content/View/1494](https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/Portal/Content/View/1494)

Program Improvement

Please share your program feedback online at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SECO_satisfaction](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SECO_satisfaction).

Interested in a feature or have ideas for the MSEP 360? Please contact your MSEP specialist with your suggestions!