



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

Press Release

USO of North Carolina Receives \$450,000 Grant to Lead NCServes Veterans Program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Today, Governor **Pat** McCrory congratulated the USO of North Carolina for being selected to lead the NCServes program in Raleigh-Durham, which is scheduled to go live this June. The USO North Carolina was awarded \$450,000 by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) through a competitive grant process to lead a multi-year project to coordinate federal, state, and county agencies and other non-profit organizations to better serve the needs of North Carolina veterans.

"North Carolina's veteran and military communities make enormous sacrifices for our country," said Governor McCrory. "From day one, taking better care of our veterans has been a top priority for me, for my administration, and for our entire state. USO of North Carolina has been a steadfast partner and we look forward to their continued support as we work hard to become the most veteran friendly state in America. When we say 'Welcome home,' we mean it."

NC Serves is a public-private partnership developed by Governor McCrory and the newly created Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. North Carolina's chapter of NCServes emerged from the successful AmericaServes model launched by Syracuse University's Institute for Veterans and Military Families. NCServes is supported by the Walmart Foundation and other local and regional philanthropic partners. The purpose of the program is to coordinate the full range of veteran resources and services through a coordinated network.

NCServes plans to have three hubs located throughout the state. The Raleigh-Durham hub will build on the success of the first NCServes hub, which was launched in August 2015 in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region. A third hub - planned for the eastern part of the state - will serve North Carolina's installation communities, which make up the fourth largest military presence in America, including half of the U.S. Special Operations Forces.

Governor McCrory has led numerous successful public private initiatives to enhance the state's support of veterans including North Carolina for Military Employment (NC4ME). At a recent event focused on hiring veterans into state government, Governor McCrory announced veteran unemployment in North Carolina had been cut in half over the past three years.

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