



USBLN[®] Members Honor Veterans with Disabilities on Veterans' Day 2013 by Advancing Employment Opportunities

For Immediate Release
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WASHINGTON, DC (November 11, 2013) – On November 11th the country honors its veterans who have given so much for this nation. The US Business Leadership Network[®] (USBLN[®]) joins with its members, partners and supporters on Monday, November 11, 2013 in renewing their commitment to full community inclusion for veterans with disabilities by advancing employment opportunities through mentoring, internships and jobs. The USBLN[®] would also like to express its appreciation to the businesses that have supported their 2013 programs benefiting veterans with disabilities.

The USBLN[®] thanks all those who volunteered to mentor Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP) college and university student veterans and recent graduates through the USBLN[®] Career Link Mentoring Program conducted in partnership with Cornell University. This program is supported by a grant from the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation. With the success of the Career Link Mentoring Program and the desire of businesses to do more to support returning veterans, the organization looks forward to launching a new mentoring program in 2014 to assist recently separated, unemployed wounded warriors in transitioning from their military career to the civilian workplace while also adjusting to life with a disability.

The USBLN[®] would also like to thank all the attendees at the 2013 USBLN[®] 16th Annual Conference held at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott who participated in preparing personal care packages for returning and homeless veterans. This service project, sponsored by Lowe's, was done in partnership with the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, West LA Healthcare Center and the Hope for the Homeless Project.

Additionally, the USBLN[®] invites American businesses to support the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) which is an international disability treaty inspired by U.S. leadership in recognizing the rights of people with disabilities. The CRPD would remove barriers and allow American service members and veterans with disabilities to work, serve, study, and live abroad. In part, barriers will be diminished due to changing attitudes around the world regarding people with disabilities. As a result of the changes occurring through the CRPD, service members and veterans with disabilities will be able to continue leading active lives within the global community. Join the over 20 top veterans' organizations that advocate for the rights of 5.5 million disabled American veterans in support of the U.S. ratification of the CRPD.

To add your company's signature to the CRPD Business Sign-On Letter contact Jill Houghton at jill@usbln.org or call 954-461-4726 - **please respond by 12pm EST today, November 11, 2013.**

For more information, please contact Jill Houghton or Kevin Locke (202-347-0102) at the U.S. International Council on Disabilities (USICD) and visit www.disabilitytreaty.org now to see the text of the treaty and related materials.

About the US Business Leadership Network[®] (USBLN[®])

The US Business Leadership Network[®] (USBLN[®]) is a national non-profit that helps business drive performance by leveraging disability inclusion in the workplace, supply chain, and marketplace. The USBLN[®] serves as the collective voice of nearly 50 Business Leadership Network affiliates across the United States, representing over 5,000 businesses. Additionally, the USBLN[®] Disability Supplier Diversity Program[®] (DSDP) is the nation's leading third party certification program for disability-owned businesses, including businesses owned by service-disabled veterans. www.usbln.org

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