

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**11 – 11 – 11:
AMERICANS UNITE IN CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY WEEK
THROUGH SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERING**

**LOCAL NON-PROFITS JOIN SERVICENATION
FOR SEATTLE AREA SERVICE PROJECT**

**Warrior Gateway and Sierra Club to lead coalition of
local partners in service projects with and for veterans**

*Seattle, November 8, 2011...*Americans from all walks of life will unite to honor active military, veterans and military families this Veterans Day—11/11/11. Seattle will host one of 11 large-scale service events in 11 major U.S. cities on Veterans Day. It's all part of ServiceNation's Mission Serve initiative which brings together the civilian and military communities through service and volunteerism. Americans who wish to volunteer in honor of those who have served in the military will also be able to log onto www.MissionServe.org to find other service projects in the region.

This year, the series of national projects will be highlighted by a high-profile social media component, led by prominent celebrities Dwayne Johnson and Miley Cyrus, who will mobilize their 50 million Twitter and Facebook followers to spread the word about the Mission Serve initiative and serve in support of active military, veterans, and military families.

On 11/11/11, join the Veterans Conservation Corps, the Sierra Club, Warrior Gateway and Service Nation for the second annual Veterans Day at Hamm Creek Estuary event. For the past two decades Hamm Creek has been transformed into a more natural setting, in addition it has been a focal point in veteran healing and transition. Today Hamm Creek is home to several species of wildlife including Beaver, Bald eagle, Osprey, and Salmon. Hamm Creek Estuary embodies the struggles veterans face in their transition into civilian life and the promise of a better tomorrow through hard work, perseverance and teamwork. Through this project we hope to build a stronger community, one blackberry and one volunteer at a time. Anyone is welcome to join us beginning at 10am, with work starting at 11.

"Service has become a meeting place for veterans and civilians," said Chris Marvin, a former Blackhawk helicopter pilot, who was wounded in Afghanistan. "Both communities understand and embrace service, and as we welcome a growing population of veterans returning from combat, it is imperative that our communities engage them by challenging them to serve here at home. Our veterans are civic assets, not only because of the service they have given overseas, but also because of how they are willing to serve in our communities. We firmly believe that the integration of the military and civilian communities begins with shared service." Marvin is currently director of Civilian-Military Partnerships for Service Nation.

Founded in 2009, Warrior Gateway connects individuals in the military community with organizations and programs (non-profit, government, educational or employment-related) in their neighborhood that are there to support them. Warrior Gateway, and its G.I. Network program, harnesses state-of-the art technology and community collaboration to help today's veterans make better decisions about what service providers they can go to for help, and have a

public forum to share their experiences about the quality and effectiveness of those services. This innovation was recognized with a Federal Computer Week Fed-100 award for significant contributions to the Federal IT community in 2011.

"We are honored to partner with ServiceNation to support the 11/11/11 service projects in Seattle," said Devin B. Holmes, CEO of Warrior Gateway. "We know that connecting military and civilian communities is an important part of the veterans' reintegration process. Our mission at Warrior Gateway is to help the military community and their families connect with meaningful resources in their local communities; being involved with a signature initiative like this allows Warrior Gateway to create valuable connections for successful transitions."

ServiceNation is proud to welcome Bank of America as the National Corporate Partner for this series of events.

For more information on the 2011 Mission Serve Veterans Day and how you can support it, please go to www.MissionServe.org.

To learn more about Warrior Gateway, please visit www.WarriorGateway.org.

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