



## **New Group has Sights Aimed at Improving Veteran Services Across the Nation**

*The National Association of Veteran-Serving Organizations (NAVSO) publicly launched today with sights clearly set on helping providers become more effective and efficient in delivering services to veterans and military families. NAVSO offers a web-based platform (<http://www.navso.org>) for best practice sharing and consolidated information, thus empowering service providers with a safe place to connect, collaborate and coordinate efforts with like-minded professionals from around the Nation.*

Publicly launching today, the National Association of Veteran-Serving Organizations (NAVSO) seeks to improve service delivery by organizations serving veterans and military families through data-driven collaboration and information sharing. NAVSO offers a web-based platform (<http://www.navso.org>) for best practice sharing and consolidated information, thus empowering service providers with a safe place to connect and collaborate with like-minded professionals from around the Nation. Over the course of the next 12 months, NAVSO will offer additional services, such as webinars and conferences, to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of providers.

For many years, industry and government leaders have expressed the need for a national coalition within the veteran serving community. NAVSO is answering that call by organizing all these efforts under one association with an online platform that facilitates collaboration and coordination among providers.

Travis Manion Foundation (TMF) is proud to help facilitate the development of NAVSO's mission: "We are proud of our long standing commitment to support and partner with promising organizations and are thrilled to introduce NAVSO as our next strategic partner to the veteran serving community," said Ryan Manion Borek, President, TMF. "For years we have watched good intentioned but siloed efforts at the community, regional and national level and we know that investing in a national coalition, led by NAVSO, is exactly what is needed."

TMF, along with other partners such as The Ahmanson Foundation, University of Southern California's Center for Innovation and Research on Veterans & Military Families, and Volunteers of America, believe NAVSO has the potential to change the landscape for the veteran community.

"The brilliant thing about a new association is that we have such a greater opportunity to impact how our government and how our private sector responds if we stand together," said Mike King, President and CEO of Volunteers of America. "What a perfect time to form an association that all these organizations can unite under and truly stand together to have a greater impact."

Starting today, NAVSO will make their online platform available to help service providers connect with like-minded professionals, and ultimately become more effective and efficient in their programs and services. NAVSO's vision of creating a national network of providers for the betterment of our nation's veterans and military families comes at a time when the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs have more openly embraced public-private partnerships.

"By bringing together government agencies, corporations and the 46,000 plus nonprofit organizations working to improve the lives of veterans and military families, we have the opportunity to eliminate redundancies, fill



critical gaps in service, and improve the return on both public and private investment,” said Chris Ford, Founder and CEO of NAVSO. “Many advocates have been talking about the importance of creating such an organization for several years. We’re honored to step up to move those conversations into action, as we launch our site today and roll out additional services over the next 12 months.”

NAVSO Team Members include:

Key Staff:

Christopher T. Ford – Founder & Chief Executive Officer

Kelly Finn Störmer – Chief Information Officer

Board of Directors:

Jim Shames, Chairman - President, 5D Pro Solutions LLC

William H. Ahmanson - President, The Ahmanson Foundation

Ryan Manion Borek - President, Travis Manion Foundation

Shalimar Cabrera, MSW - Executive Director, U.S. VETS, Las Vegas

Lida Citroën - Principal, LIDA360

Snejana Daily - Producer’s Assistant, ABC Family

Board of Advisors:

Antoinette Balta - Executive Director, Veterans Legal Institute

Tony Forbes - Director, Outreach & Engagements, Nevada DVS

Dr. Anthony Hassan - Director, USC CIR

Dr. C. Randall Howard - Big Data Scientist and Adjunct Professor, GMU

Ralph Ibson - Policy/Veterans Affairs Consultant

RJ Naugle - Program Officer, Onward Veterans, Schultz Family Foundation

Christian Rahn - Principal, Warvik Enterprises

Dr. Jon Sherin - EVP for Military Communities and Chief Medical Officer, VOA

Anne Sprute - CEO, RallyPoint/6

Lisa Stern - President, Stern Consulting LLC

Raymond Weeks - Retired Executive Leader

About the National Association for Veteran-Serving Organizations (NAVSO)

The National Association of Veteran-Serving Organizations (NAVSO) is an IRS-approved 501(c)(3) organization focused on improving outcomes for veterans and military families through data-driven collaboration. They are answering the call to bring together the over 46,000 non-profits, government entities and private organizations serving the military and veteran community. NAVSO seeks to remove silos and improve service delivery effectiveness in the military and veteran community. For more information about NAVSO, visit our media room (<http://www.navso.org/media>) or watch our short video (<https://vimeo.com/119184914>).



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