



March 27, 2017

Orange County is home to one of the largest concentrations of Veterans in the United States. The Saddleback College Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) Program, the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), and the Veterans Student Council (VSC) invites you to support the inaugural **"VETS 5K and Kids Ruck"** benefiting student Veterans in need in South Orange County. This special event, garnering support for over 1,000 current student Veterans and the increasing number of future student Veterans transitioning into our community, will take place **Sunday June 18th**.

Saddleback College is viewed by many as the premiere institution of higher education for Veterans. Our VETS Program has been recognized statewide and has been the model countless times at other colleges and universities. SAME and VSC are leaders in the student community and promote have continued to promote resources and opportunities for students and students Veterans alike. We are partnering to build greater supports for our nation's heroes.

The Post 9-11 GI Bill has opened the doors to higher education to hundreds of thousands of prior military personnel yet these funds are often not enough to support them through their studies leaving unmet financial gaps. Also, student Veterans often find themselves initially needing non-transferable coursework or not having the social capital to succeed in college. That is where the Warrior Scholar Program steps in. This event will also sponsor dozens of student Veterans to attend this academic boot camp prior to enrolling or in their first year of enrollment at Saddleback College. These trainings are held at some of the most prestigious universities in the country such as Princeton University, Yale, Columbia, Notre Dame, and USC. We have found this profoundly life-changing and making all the difference in their success after service to our country.

Your generous sponsorship of this annual event will not only demonstrate your support for the brave men and women who have served our nation with honor and distinction, but will also enable your organization to show to our community your commitment to our Veterans success in the next chapter of their lives. In addition, your **tax-deductible donation** will provide your organization the options and incentives listed in the enclosed Sponsor Pledge Form.

Join our community leaders and support our Veterans by becoming a sponsor today! To be a sponsor of the inaugural **"VETS 5K and Kids Ruck"**, please see the attached Sponsor Pledge Form and contact us by Monday, May 22nd.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terence Nelson".

Terence Nelson, M.Ed. M.S.
VETS Program Coordinator/Counselor
Saddleback College
949-582-4473

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jacob Dolak".

Jacob Dolak, USMC
Director of Veterans Student Council
Saddleback College

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Laster".

Jeremy Laster, USMC
VP of S.A.M.E Student Chapter
Saddleback College