

The entire community came together to show their support.

We shared holidays, tears, joys and tragedies together, with a special focus on those with geographically separated Families or single service members.

Their support was invaluable and this is what the Community Covenant is all about.”

- Major, U.S. Army



A former Green Beret and lifelong horseman offers skill set restructuring and wellness through horsemanship and ranching. The Cowboy Up! program is located south of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



For more information

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COMMUNITY COVENANT

supporting those who serve

“A heartfelt “Thank You” to the Town of Chelmsford and the surrounding area.

Our friends, co-workers, neighbors, and fellow townspeople went above and beyond all hopes and expectations to make sure we were taken care of.

Please know that our time in Chelmsford will hold a warm and truly memorable place in our hearts, reinforce our faith in community, and will make our service to our great country all the more worthwhile.”



Military Family, Chelmsford, Massachusetts
A Community Covenant community since 2009



The Community Covenant

fosters and sustains state and community partnerships to support service members, veterans and their families in their local community.

Through the Community Covenant, representatives from government, non-profits, social services, faith-based organizations, emergency management, law enforcement, and private citizens come together to form a local community support network. The network meets and communicates regularly to develop collaborative, coordinated, and comprehensive support for local service members, veterans and their families. The network connects with local families to identify needs and then works together to implement local solutions.

Once community representatives meet, identify support needed, and develop an action plan, a Community Covenant signing ceremony formalizes their commitment of support.

A Community Covenant signing ceremony is purely symbolic, but carries a deep moral commitment and provides a platform to bring together the community support network, local leaders, and private citizens to strengthen relationships, celebrate success, and inspire support. The signing ceremony is also a platform to celebrate support, welcome new community participation, and announce any support initiatives or outcomes.

While the Community Covenant was inspired by the Army, community leaders quickly realized the need to expand the Covenant commitment to all service members, veterans and their families in the local community. Adopt-a-Unit programs, emergency relief funds, youth support activities, mentor programs, or simply thanking a veteran or service member for their service are some of the ways communities support their local service members.

Everyone can make a difference.

COMMUNITY COVENANT *in Action*

Community support networks

After signing Community Covenants in 2011, Madison, Florida and Jacksonville, Texas organized community support networks to meet the needs of local service members, veterans and their families, such as: medical transportation, financial support/counseling, home maintenance, spiritual counseling, child care services and behavioral health support.



State volunteerism

Following a Community Covenant signing, Iowa American Legion posts created "Operation: Troop Support" to coordinate volunteerism in many local communities to assist military families with car repairs, home and lawn maintenance, and financial assistance.



Grassroots support

Chelmsford, Massachusetts signed a Community Covenant in 2009 and continues to provide local support such as grocery shopping, lawn care and organizing social events.



Relocation services

In May 2008, the Fayetteville, North Carolina community signed a Community Covenant to 'make a difference in the lives of Soldiers and families' in the local community, formed the 'Army's Army' and continues to serve as a relocation resource.

Utility abatement

A six-person Community Covenant National Guard team works with local communities in Utah to inspire support. A unique outcome of their diligence is free/reduced utility services for many active, guard and reserve service members.



Employment

After a Community Covenant signing in 2011, the Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, with local business support, initiated the Chamber's "Hiring Our Heroes" program.

