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**Subject:** Montgomery County leads Tennessee in deploying the innovative Network of Care for Veterans

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Hello,

Montgomery County, Tenn., launched the highly sought-after [Network of Care for Veterans, Service Members & Their Families](#) before a large and enthusiastic crowd on April 24 in Clarksville.

This highly sophisticated and locally customized Web portal is a much-needed "one-stop shop" of all services, programs, news, support, job boards, and much more.

"After I was fortunate enough to be elected county mayor," said Mayor Jim Durrett, "one of the first things that we talked about as a staff was building something to help our veterans."

During a demonstration of the Network of Care, "I fell in love with this site," Durrett added. "Within minutes we came to an agreement. That's how hooked I was on this, and that is how much it means to me to be able to provide a service to the men and women who have served our country and who currently serve today."

"What citizens and taxpayers like to see is their elected officials seeing a problem, defining that problem and then finding a way to solve that problem," said U.S. Rep Marsha Blackburn, R-TN. "That is what Mayor Durrett and his staff have done, by bringing forward this aggregator site which will bring together the resources that are necessary for our men and women in uniform and our government to be able to access the services that they need.

"Not only is this good for the veterans, it is good for their families, because it is a ready resource for them. This site is built to link you to other entities and additional information. It is so responsive to the needs of so many in this community," she said.

Blackburn was pleased, not only with the finished project, but also with the way the goal was achieved.

"We are thrilled that Montgomery County said 'we are not waiting on someone else to do this,'" said Blackburn. "They weren't going to wait on federal funding or state funding, they were simply going to solve this problem. And they have done that in the right way, on an effective time line and to the benefit of the citizens of this county. I congratulate you and thank you for letting me stop in with you this afternoon."

Command Sgt. Maj. Gabriel Espinoza, Jr., expressed what certainly must be a goal of many in Clarksville-Montgomery County.

"I'm fired up that we are doing stuff for veterans," said Espinoza. "This is something that is deep in my heart. I like to take care of soldiers and retirees and veterans. I'm so glad the relationship within our community continues to grow. We continue to forge great relations between Montgomery County and Fort Campbell and the veterans and retirees we all serve. We want our soldiers and their families to come to Fort Campbell and love it here. So much so, even if they have to move away, they ask and fight to come back to Fort Campbell, and ultimately retire in this community."

Espinoza sees the new website helping soldiers with employment, education and other services.

"Our community helps exemplify our vision of the best soldier and family experience at Fort Campbell," Espinoza said. "We have to reach out to those who have suffered physically and/or mentally. We have many programs that care for our soldiers, but they don't have that support system once they are out of the service."

"The Veterans Network of Care site will assist veterans and retirees with a one-stop shop of programs and services. This will help us achieve our goal of having soldiers who are ending their tour of duty, choose to stay here. Our relationship is truly strategic, unique and exceptional. We are supported like no other. This program is one of many initiatives that exemplifies our common culture, vision and purpose in protecting our country while sharing an interdependent commitment to each other."

The Network of Care, developed by Trilogy Integrated Resources, grew from the award-winning Network of Care for Behavioral Health. It has a strong focus on the mental-health needs of those returning from combat. The Network of Care, in partnership with the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors and the National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors, is unique as the only service in the nation where veterans can find all resources available to them, including local programs. The Network of Care started in Maryland and California but is being replicated in many states and counties throughout the nation.

If you have any questions or would like a more in-depth demonstration of how the Network of Care works, please contact me anytime at [Bronzan@trilogyir.com](mailto:Bronzan@trilogyir.com) or (415) 458-5900.

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