From the Constituent Services Desk...

For many Service members, the hardest part of separating from the military is transitioning to civilian life. For some, military life is the only life they've known, and this transition can prove stressful to the Service member and their family. Even with today's technology, it can be overwhelming to locate the right assistance. Below are some really great all-inclusive resources for Service members, Veterans, and their families.

Military OneSource

Their mission statement is "...to-connect you to your best MilLife." Help is available 24/7/365 online or toll-free at 800-342-9647. For Service members and their families, deployed or stateside, they provide information on counseling services, military life events, family & relationships, moving & housing, as well as, financial & legal matters. For Veterans, they provide resources on education benefits, employment services, disability programs, and links to each states' veteran benefits.

Office of Warrior Care Policy

This Department of Defense site's mission is "to proactively support wounded, ill, and injured Service members in their recovery and reintegration or transition to civilian life." There are resources for caregivers, information on the Recovery Coordination Program, how the Disability Evaluation System works, and a National Resource Directory. A one-stop shop for information on everything from homeless assistance to military adaptive sports programs.

Veterans Advantage

Veterans Advantage "is a public benefit corporation that creates new, exclusive benefits and discounts for you as active duty, retired military, veteran, guard, reservist, or family member." When you enroll (FREE), you will receive a VetRewards Card. This will be the only ID you will need to show organizations to receive veteran or military benefits and rewards.

The <u>Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)</u> has created a <u>VA Welcome Kit</u> to guide you to the benefits and services earned. Their <u>website</u> is very informative. Broken down into four sections; Health Care, Disability, Education, and Records, it provides information on how to apply for benefits and assistance in obtaining those benefits. There is a special section dedicated to the VA Transition Program (TAP). TAP provides links such as "VA Benefits 101," "Social and Emotional Health Resources," and "Vet Centers."

If you have any questions, or a specific problem with the military or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, please contact our office at caseworkga11@mail.house.gov or 770-429-1776. We look forward to serving you, should you need our assistance.