



### ***We've Got a New Look!***

*"Great Place to Serve" is our new approach that encompasses our Top 50 initiative. We will refocus the objective of the initiative to increase Sailor awareness of the training, education, and benefits of naval service that make our Navy a Great Place to Serve. Top 50 awards will remain a part of this new initiative and will serve as one metric by which to hold ourselves accountable. We look forward to your feedback on this new way ahead!*

## **Navy Safe Harbor Program** ***Promoting Continuum of Service***

Under the guidance of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Sailor initiative, Navy outlined five objectives and policies, both new and existing, to maximize Sailor personal readiness with the goal of honing the most combat effective force in the history of the United States Navy. Those five key areas are Safety, Physical Fitness, Inclusion, Continuum of Service, and Readiness. The Navy Safe Harbor (NSH) Program supports the objective of Continuum of Service, ensuring Sailors are prepared to handle the mental and emotional rigors of military service, and they are physically and mentally ready to take on, and continue the mission of the Navy.

The Navy Safe Harbor program coordinates the non-medical care of seriously wounded, ill, and injured Sailors, Coast Guardsmen, and their families. The program provides a lifetime of individually tailored assistance designed to optimize the success of shipmates' recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration activities.

The program began in 2005, when the Military Severely Injured Center requested a Navy Liaison at their center to support Sailors seriously wounded in combat. A Navy liaison, a program director, and an outreach case manager were designated as the first Navy Safe Harbor program staff. At that time, there were 20 wounded Sailors enrolled in the program. Since then, the program has expanded rapidly. Currently, there are more than 860 Sailors and more than 50 Coast Guardsmen enrolled in the program, and these numbers grow every month. Safe Harbor also assists an additional 890 Sailors and Coast Guardsmen who do not qualify for enrollment, but still require support.

On 1 April, 2009, Navy Safe Harbor signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Coast Guard, designating Navy Safe Harbor as the lead organization for providing support to seriously wounded, ill, and injured Coast Guardsmen. While the Navy Safe Harbor Program is open to both Sailors and those in the Coast Guard, there are no plans to expand this program to the Marines Corps.

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## **Sept-Oct Themes**

### **Sept: Suicide Prevention Month**

Suicide Warning Signs

I: Ideation

S: Substance Use

P: Purposelessness

A: Anxiety

T: (Feeling) Trapped

H: Hopelessness

W: Withdrawal

A: Anger

R: Recklessness

M: Mood Changes

### **Oct: Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Training**

As part of the Navy's continuing effort to prevent sexual assaults and promote essential culture changes within the force, SAPR Leadership (SAPR-L) (E7 and above) and SAPR Fleet (SAPR-F) (E6 and below) training will provide some of the critical tools to reduce sexual assault and promote a culture of respect and professionalism in our force, where each Sailor is motivated to intervene and stop this crime.

## **War of 1812 Quick Facts**

Navy made important contributions to the nation's war effort by:

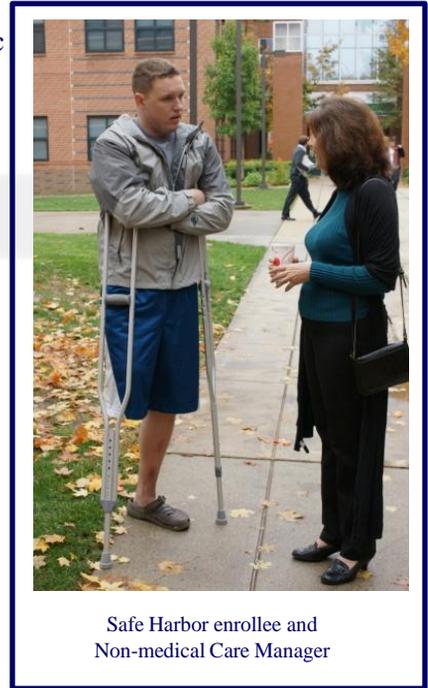
- Harassing enemy commerce
- Engaging enemy naval forces in ship-to-ship and in fleet actions
- Supporting military operations
- Defending coastal waterways
- Protecting national commerce
- Enforcing trade laws
- Combating piracy
- Raising national morale

## Navy Safe Harbor Program

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The Marines currently have their own wounded warrior support program called the Wounded Warrior Regiment. Non-medical care managers of Navy Safe Harbor support enrolled Sailors and Coast Guardsmen by coordinating: pay and personnel issues, invitational travel orders, lodging and housing adaptation, child and youth care, transportation needs, legal and guardianship issues, education and training benefits, commissary and exchange access, respite care, traumatic brain injury/post-traumatic stress support services, and more. The care managers work with a wounded warrior and his or her medical team to develop a comprehensive recovery plan, which is designed to address the individual's specific recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration goals. CAPT Steve Hall, the director of NSH remarked, "Navy Safe Harbor allows seriously wounded, ill, and injured service members to focus on getting well without distractions. From addressing pay problems, to providing legal guidance, to connecting service members to housing adaptation resources, we address any bumps along the road to recovery. Navy Safe Harbor provides support when service members and their families need it most."

Navy Safe Harbor provides lifetime support; enrollment does not conclude when a service member is discharged from a medical treatment facility. Providing a lifetime of support for our Sailors ensures that our force will always remain ready to support America's Navy. Safe Harbor enrollee, Retired Navy STS1 Henry Dill commented that, "Navy Safe Harbor is the first thing I would recommend to [wounded Sailors]. I only used a portion of what they have to offer. It is everything other than medical - anything from getting to your appointments to pay problems. Any questions I had they always got an answer. There is nothing they don't know, there is nothing they can't clear."



Safe Harbor enrollee and  
Non-medical Care Manager

## Information and Resources

1. Navy Safe Harbor Main : <http://safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil>
2. Navy Safe Harbor Foundation: <http://www.safeharborfoundation.org/>
3. BUPERS Suicide Prevention:  
[http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/support/suicide\\_prevention/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/support/suicide_prevention/Pages/default.aspx)
4. Navy Leaders Guide for Managing Sailors in Distress: <http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/LGuide/>
5. SAPR Fleet and Leadership Training Site:  
<http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/support/sapr/pages/training.aspx>
6. War of 1812 Commemoration: <http://ourflagwasstillthere.org>

### 5 Things You Should Know about Safe Harbor

## A Letter from the Editor

Some of you may notice that the appearance of this Newsgram is different than in past editions and the name has changed.

I am excited to announce the Great Place to Serve initiative. This new effort will be the umbrella initiative to Top 50 Awards, and will include other efforts with the ultimate goal of building awareness within the Fleet.

This has been a work-in-progress for some time now and we feel that it is the right time to increase Sailors' awareness of all of the great programs, initiatives, benefits and training opportunities afforded to them through their naval service, and to validate their decision to go and stay Navy. We will use the Great Place to Serve initiative to increase awareness within the Fleet of the benefits of naval service and to prove that Navy is a Great Place to Serve. We will use the lessons learned by the Top 50 initiative and through our numerous and continuing award wins to provide external recognition and validation of our programs and opportunities. The focus of the Great Place to Serve initiative will be on the Fleet, to ensure every Sailor, career counselor, and leader is aware of what the Navy can offer and how to find this information.

This is a new way ahead and I look forward to the process, your feedback and the initiative's success. It is vital we continue to grow and improve our efforts to value our Sailors and provide them the best training, programs, benefits and other opportunities available.

Warm Regards,

Christina Holden

1. Navy Safe Harbor enrollment consideration is given to: Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation New Dawn (OND) casualties\*, shipboard and training accidents, liberty accidents, and serious illnesses. The Navy Safe Harbor program provides a *lifetime* of care.

2. Any wounded warrior is eligible. The Navy defines a "wounded warrior" as a Sailor who has a serious illness or injury requiring long-term care that may result in a Medical Evaluation Board/Physical Evaluation Board (MEB/PEB) to determine fitness for duty. Support is not limited to combat injuries; Navy Safe Harbor also assists those battling serious illnesses or who are injured in accidents.

3. Navy Safe Harbor has staff located throughout the continental United States including: Chicago; Newport, Bremerton, Wash.; Camp Lejeune, Camp Pendleton, Jacksonville, Fla.; Oak Harbor, Wash.; Portsmouth, Va; San Diego, San Antonio, Bethesda, and VA Polytrauma Rehabilitation Centers in Minneapolis, Palo Alto, Richmond, and Tampa.

4. Navy Safe Harbor employs a Staff Attorney who – among other duties – serves as a mentor and advisor to enrollees, their Non-medical Care Managers, and their families. The attorney is familiar with Navy and Coast Guard policies and procedures related to benefits, reserve affairs, personnel, and administration, and can provide guidance on legal dilemmas of all shapes and sizes. In addition, the attorney coordinates closely with Naval Legal Service Command to connect enrollees with a global network of Legal Assistance Attorneys, as necessary.

5. For questions on enrollment eligibility, call Navy Safe Harbor's toll-free line, 877-746-8563, or e-mail [safeharbor@navy.mil](mailto:safeharbor@navy.mil).

\* Navy Safe Harbor is unable to support those wounded in combat operations prior to 2001.

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### Top 50 Awards

#### Spotlight: Alliance for Work-Life Progress: Work-Life Innovative Excellence Award

**Description:** The Work-Life Innovative Excellence Award is the highest honor offered by Alliance for Work-Life Progress (AWLP). The award was created in 1996 to showcase programs and policies that demonstrate excellence in enhancing and promoting work-life effectiveness while achieving organizational goals. Past recipients exemplified forward-thinking organizations that look beyond their own cultural, demographic and organizational boundaries to continue their work-life efforts.

Topics covered in the submission include: description of program or innovative, rationale and vision, responsiveness to vision, quality enhancement, innovation, and effectiveness.

The call for applications is open to all programs. There is no application fee. Eligible entities may submit a program/initiative that has been in effect for at least one year from the date of this submission. Exceptions to this prerequisite include individual, one-time events (such as a summer camp program) that have completed development, implementation, and evaluation phases. Overall work-life strategies may not be nominated for the award. The following national and international organizations will be considered: corporations, labor organizations, collaborations between service providers or consultants and employers, government agencies, work-life service providers, non-profits and community-based organizations, academic institutions, and consultants.

Navy’s Task Force Life/Work was a previous winner of this distinguished award in March 2010 for demonstrating excellence in enhancing and promoting work-life effectiveness while achieving organizational goals.

**Application deadline:** Submissions for this award will be accepted through 1 October 2012. Please inform Ms. Holden, the OPNAV N1Z Award POC, of your intent to submit for this award at [Top50@navy.mil](mailto:Top50@navy.mil).

For more information visit:

<http://www.awlp.org/awlp/about/html/innovativeaward.html>



### Upcoming Awards

Unless otherwise noted, all organizations within the MPT&E Domain should notify the N1Z POC of their intent to submit at [Top50@Navy.mil](mailto:Top50@Navy.mil)

Award	Deadline to N1Z	Important Dates
<a href="#">Work-Life Innovative Excellence Award</a>	Submission made directly to sponsor	Application accepted through 1 October 2012
<a href="#">Diversity Top 50 Award</a>	Interested parties should email CDR Gary Futch	Survey due to sponsor October 2012
<a href="#">Best Places to Work Oklahoma</a>	Submission made directly to sponsor	Application due to sponsor November 2012

For a complete list of awards received to-date visit:

<http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/organization/bupers/Top50/Pages/AwardsToDate.aspx>