

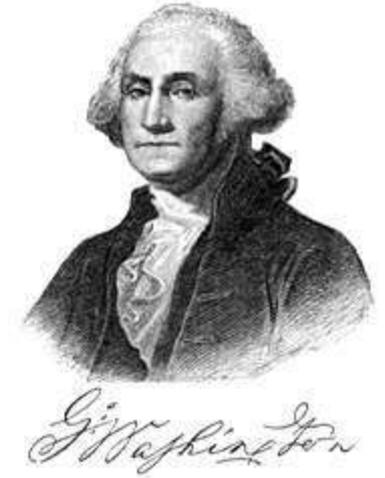


# **Fort Huachuca Retiree Appreciation Day**

**7 February 2015**



“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by this country.”



George Washington 1781





# Army Retirement Services

An Army Program Since 1955

**Retirement is a Process; NOT an Event!**

32,210 Soldiers retired in FY14

2015 Population Served	Active Army			Retired Soldiers	Surviving Spouses	Total
	Army	ARNG	USAR			
	503,651	350,276	196,153	934,816	247,336	2.23M

## Pre-Retirement Policy

- 117 Retirement Services Officers
- Career Status Bonus
- Active Duty Death SBP
- MyArmyBenefits Website
- Pre-Retirement Counseling
- SBP/RCSBP Counseling
- Retiring Soldier Commendation Program
- SBP Counselor Certification

## Post-Retirement Policy

- Lifetime benefits advice & support
- Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)
- Annuity for Certain Military Surviving Spouses
- *Army Echoes* Newsletter
- CSA & Installation Retiree Councils
- Retiree Appreciation Days
- Strategic communications & websites
- AAFES/DeCA/AFRH Advisory Boards
- Army Family Action Plan GOSC

**AR 600-8-7 – “Retirement Services Program”**

<http://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>



# Retired Soldier/Spouse Demographics

- **Predominant Pay Grades**

Enlisted: SFC      WO=CW4      Officers: LTC

- **Predominant Age of Retired Soldiers:**

61-70 years

- **Predominant Age of Surviving Spouses**

71-80 years

- **Largest Soldier/Surviving Spouse Age Group**

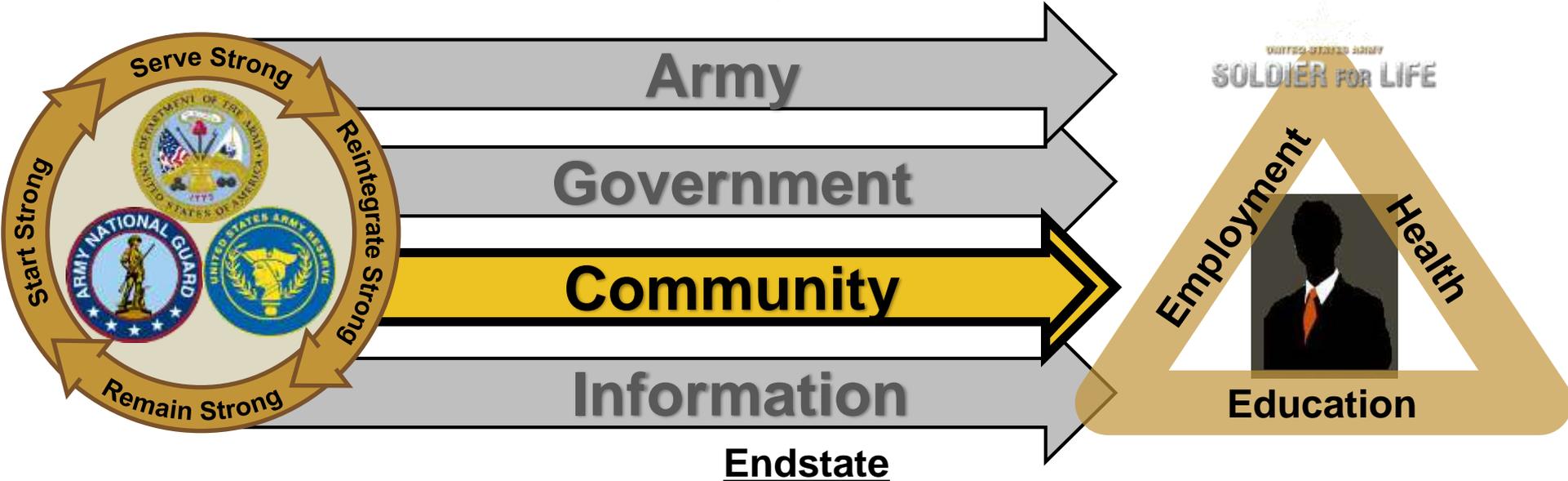
61-70 years



# Soldier for Life Campaign

## Mission

*Soldier for Life connects Army, governmental, and community efforts to build relationships that facilitate successful reintegration of our Soldiers, Retired Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families in order to keep them Army Strong and instill their values, ethos, and leadership within communities.*



## Endstate

*Soldiers, Veterans, and Families leave military service “career ready” and find an established network of enablers connecting them with the employment, education, and healthcare required to successfully reintegrate into civilian society.*

**Army Imperative: Sustain the Premier All-Volunteer Army**



# Soldier Life Cycle

## 1 Start Strong

- Top 23%
- HS Diploma / College
- PaYS Partners
- Initial Entry Training (IET)
- Army Values and Warrior Ethos



## 2 Serve Strong

- Technical and Leadership experience
- PME supports continued development
- ACT / COOL / JST
- Credentialing, Certifications and Licensing



## 4 Remain Strong

- Community Reception
- National Guard / Reserve
- VSO / MSO
- Retired Soldiers / Veterans
- Mentors
- Community Leaders



## 3 Re-integrate Strong

- SFL-TAP (ACAP)
- Pre-Retirement Briefings
- National Guard / Reserve
- Army Network / Mentors
- Community Action Teams
- Apprenticeships/Internships



# 2014 Chief of Staff Army Retiree Council Report

## (27 April-2 May 14)

### Topics

- 1) Health Care Concerns
- 2) Benefits and Entitlements Concerns
- 3) Strategic Communication



# Council's Recommendations

## Health Care Concerns:

- Healthcare for retire Soldiers and Family members remains the #1 issue
- Return of “over 65” population to MTF’s for primary care whenever possible is an important step in the right direction
- Minimize co-pays; encourage Express Scripts mail order pharmacy
- OTSG is reviewing business models to improve efficiencies.



# Council's Recommendations

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## Benefits and Entitlements Concerns

- Retain the Commissary benefit
- Maintain the current COLA methodology
- Issue spouses over age 65 permanent identification cards.



# Council's Recommendations

## Strategic Communication:

- CSA – use us for Army message
- Maintain 3 issues of Army Echoes / year
- Continue to communicate with us personally – Page One Echoes
- Army G-1 new website to replace part of AKO:

**<http://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>**



# The **NEW** Retirement Services Website

## <http://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>



Army Retirement Services Office

# SOLDIER FOR LIFE

*Once a Soldier, Always a Soldier ... A Soldier for Life!*

- > Retired Soldiers - Home
- > Army Echoes
- > Preparing to Retire
- > After Retiring
- > Survivor Benefit Plan
- > Career Status Bonus
- > Retirement Services Officers
- > RC Retirement Services
- > Survivor Assistance
- > CSA Retiree Council
- > Former Spouse Information
- > Calculators
- > Active Officer Retirement
- > Active Enlisted Retirement
- > RSO - Mission
- > Helpful External Links
- > Contact Us



We Remember













### Army Echoes Updates

- [Department of Defense Announces New Policy on Service Member Allotments](#)
- [Installation Visitors, Civilian Workers Can Dine At The Exchange](#)
- [Exchange Doubles Savings on Gas Nov. 14-16 for MILITARY STAR® Card Users](#)
- [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: Making Your Voice Heard](#)
- [Nationwide Telephone Scam Affecting TRICARE](#)

[Army Echoes Updates archives](#)

[Subscribe to Army Echoes Updates](#)

### Retiree Appreciation Days

Today ◀ ▶ **Tuesday, December 16**

<b>Saturday, February 7, 2015</b>
Fort Huachuca
<b>Saturday, March 28, 2015</b>
Fort Stewart, GA
<b>Saturday, April 25, 2015</b>
JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ
<b>Saturday, May 2, 2015</b>
West Point, NY
<b>Saturday, May 9, 2015</b>
Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time [+ Google Calendar](#)

[SFL Home](#) | [Soldiers \(AD/NG/AR\)](#) | [Retired Soldiers](#) | [Veterans](#) | [Military Families/Gold Star Families](#) | [Education](#) | [Employment](#) | [Health](#) | [MyArmyBenefits](#) | [About](#)

● SFL Mission
● SFL Initiatives





# Army Echoes

- Official Army publication for communicating with Retired Soldiers/Families
- 3 issues: FEB, JUN, OCT
- New apps for iPhone, iPad, Android phones
- All Retired Soldiers and SBP annuitants with email addresses in their **myPay** accounts now receive Army *Echoes* electronically at their email addresses in **myPay**.

**Check your email address in myPay to ensure your Army Echoes reaches you!**

- To receive updates between editions of *Army Echoes*, subscribe to *ArmyEchoesUpdates* at the Soldier for Life website at <http://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>
- **Anyone** may subscribe to *Army Echoes* at the Soldier for Life website at <http://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>





# Lapel Buttons/Retired Badge

Past



Army Lapel Button



New



Army Lapel Button



US Army Retired  
Lapel Button  
1968-2007



US Army Retired  
Lapel Pin  
2007-2014



US Army Retired  
Lapel Button



US Army Retired ID Badge



US Army Retired ID Badge



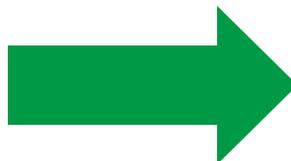
# Rebranding of Army's Transition Program



**TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

*Start Strong • Serve Strong • Reintegrate Strong • Remain Strong*

**Retirement  
Services Office**



**Soldier for Life  
Retirement Services Office**

***Both offices may be collocated in the Soldier for Life Center***



# 2015 Significant Challenges

- Funding Challenges at every level
- STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION -- Internal & External
- Army RSO Bottom Line: Never Break Faith with You; Always Be Your Champion!
- “CALL TO ACTION”

***“ONCE A SOLDIER, ALWAYS SOLDIER  
... A SOLDIER FOR LIFE”***



# Thank You for Your Service!



**To all of our Retired Soldiers and Spouses**

**Thank you for your service to our Nation and America's Army!**

**Army Strong!**



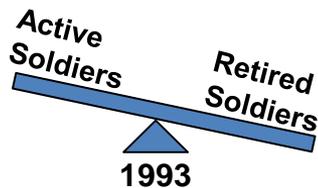


**Q U E S T I O N S ?**



# Population Served -- Growing

<u>Year</u>	<u>Active Soldiers</u>	<u>Retired Soldiers</u>
1920	204,000	6,000
1950	593,000	42,000
1960	873,000	102,000
1970	1,323,000	282,000
1980	777,000	425,000
1990	732,000	489,000
2000	482,000	526,000
2010	562,000	847,000



**In FY13, the Army paid \$18.5 Billion  
in retired and annuity pay to  
Retired Soldiers and surviving spouses**

