

Fellow Soldiers,

As we continue to reshape our Army and defend our nation and its allies, while reducing our end strength, be assured the Army will not waver in its commitment to take care of Soldiers, Civilians and their Families. I want the Army to remain an institution in which each of you are proud to serve and with which you want to remain connected.

In July 2012, I established the Army's Soldier for Life program (SFL - <http://www.SoldierForLife.army.mil>) to connect the Army, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private companies, and communities across America in an effort to assist Soldiers, Retired Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families with the process of integrating into Civilian society. Through SFL we are synchronizing the efforts of the more than 46,000 organizations, allowing Soldiers to "Start Strong, Serve Strong, Reintegrate Strong, and Remain Strong."

Recently, the Army's Soldier for Life program refocused its efforts to ensure Soldiers have the support required for their continued success during every phase of service, not just during the transition process. To support this effort, Secretary McHugh and I have approved several initiatives that reflect the Army's commitment to the Soldier for Life mindset. Each of you should take a moment to review the following key changes at <http://soldierforlife.army.mil/initiatives>.

### **Soldier for Life Buttons and Badges**

### **Soldier for Life – Transition Assistance Program (Formerly ACAP)**

### **Soldier for Life Centers**

Each of you executes pivotal functions that guarantee achievement of the Army's mission requirements supporting the National Military Strategy. Thank you for your contributions and sacrifices, and for simply choosing to serve. All Soldier For Life efforts demonstrate the Army's sincere and enduring gratitude to its Army Family.

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

General Odierno

