



VETERANS & MILITARY CENTER

STUDENT SUCCESS

CHANGING LIVES FOREVER



HONORING OUR SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Schoolcraft College honors the many sacrifices made by service members, veterans, and their families. We are dedicated to assisting them in achieving their academic and personal goals as we recognize the outstanding qualities of leadership, flexibility and teamwork they bring to the overall educational experience of all Schoolcraft students.



VETERANS & MILITARY CENTER

CURRENT *Veterans Center*

Opened in 2014, the current Veterans Center is a space dedicated to those men and women returning to civilian life after serving our country. Many have seen war first hand and need additional support and resources to help them achieve their dream of an education and a sustainable career.

Since it opened, the Center has seen steady growth and the number of Veterans have now doubled. There was over a 15% increase between 2018 and 2019 alone. The current space is cramped and, often, not very private. Students are given one-on-one advising and the space does not allow for confidentiality. Files are kept in a central study space which often causes disruption to other veterans using the space.

The current Center has very limited resources for families of veterans and military service members, which also is a population with needs.



TRANSFORMING LIVES

VETERANS CENTER USAGE

2017 - 2018

209
STUDENTS

2018 - 2019

407
STUDENTS

THE NEED: \$300,000

(\$250,000 EXPANSION, \$50,000 VETERANS PROGRAM FUND)

VISION 2025:

Veterans & Military Center

It is critical to meet the growing needs of veteran and military students and their families.

This expanded Center will focus on the unique needs of veterans in a college environment. This student population requires recognition for previous learning on the job and the opportunity to receive credit for these experiences.

An expanded Veterans & Military Center would:

- Allow for private conversations including academic advising, contacting the Office of Veteran Affairs and other interactions where privacy is crucial.
- Provide space for support and/or programs to help these heroes acclimate to civilian life and school.
- Provide a space where our service men and women, many who suffer from PTSD, can interact with fellow vets in a quiet, relaxing atmosphere.
- Provide services such as hosting representatives from other VA branches for assistance with vocational rehabilitation, housing, and health care, among others.
- Expand the lending library and our textbook loan program.
- Give access to computers, printers and study areas just for our veterans.
- Be a resource for families of active military and veterans for access to support and tuition assistance.
- This expanded Center will provide these brave men and women with the tools and resources to be successful in school and their civilian careers.

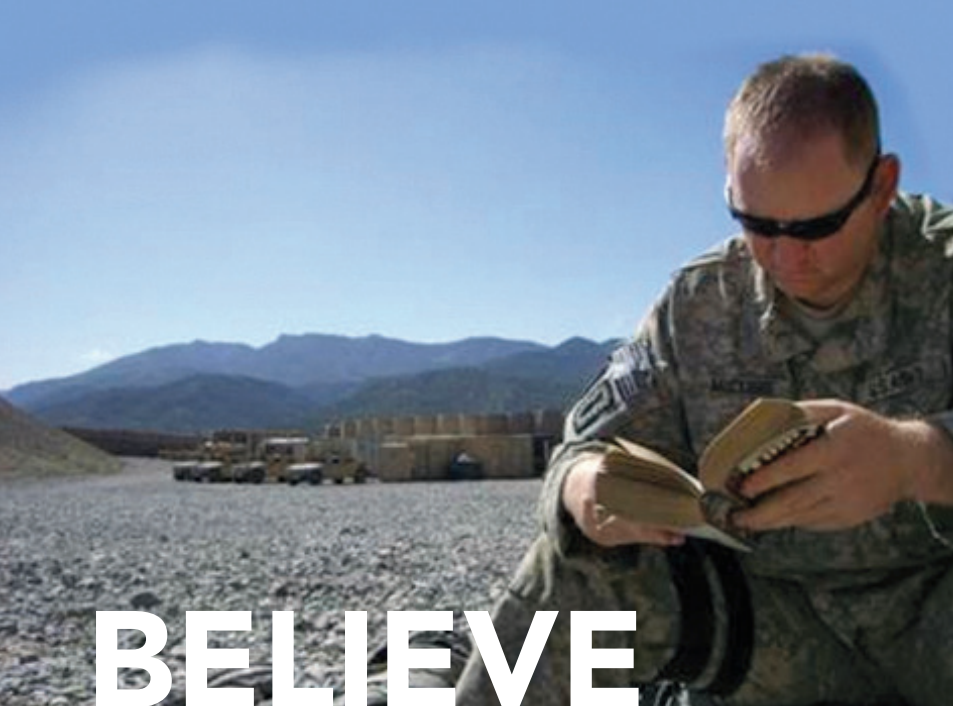


Jacob was honorably discharged from the Gulf War and unsure of where his life was headed. He came to the Veteran's Resource Center to talk about his benefits and pursue a new career in welding. With the help of the VRC staff, Jacob applied for his benefits, registered for classes and an education plan. He was on his way!

After his second term, Jacob started to visit the Center on a daily basis to grab a cup of coffee, snacks and use the computers. This continued for a few weeks until his pattern changed and he was using the chairs in the Center to relax and sometimes take naps. Staff became concerned and found out that Jacob was homeless and living in his car.

Thankfully, the Center was able to connect Jacob to local resources and, within a week, he was safe in a shelter and getting assistance through the VA office for support. Today, Jacob is still in college and now living in an apartment.

Jacob is one of many student veterans who don't "fit" the original intention of VRC services, but he represents a growing need to expand the VRC space and services. If not homelessness, student veterans use the Center for companionship, a quiet space, books, or resources for their families.



BELIEVE IN VETERANS.

The Veterans Resource Center provides support to veterans and military members and their families as prospective or current students including:

- The VA educational benefits application process
- Dedicated academic advising and course selection for veterans
- Planning a program of study in accordance with Schoolcraft and VA policies/guidelines as well as Submission of enrollment certification paperwork
- Information about scholarships offered to veterans and service members
- College resources in, Priority Registration, Tutoring, Career Services and Resume Writing
- Emergency support for books, special equipment and other educational needs.

Schoolcraft is proudly recognized as a gold level Michigan Veteran Friendly Institution.



Steven E. McClure, a scholarship recipient, is a disabled Army Bomb Squad Veteran who returned to college to obtain his license to teach elementary school. "I understand the importance of automation, technology, electronics, and especially robotics and I have firsthand experience in handling bomb disabling robots in combat." His goal is to share his experiences and be a positive male role model to underprivileged children, encouraging them academically. Steven received a scholarship allowing him to focus on his studies and projects. "You are certainly making a difference in my life and my family's life. Thank you again for your generous support."



VISION 2025

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Vision 2025 is a five-year fundraising initiative that supports the college, it's programs, students, and residents of the southeast Michigan community. It is designed to provide the financial support needed for the college to move beyond what current funding provides. Vision 2025 will help the college engage, inspire and transform workforce and education to meet the changing needs of the community, the economy, and students, as well as impact the next 25 years of the 21st Century.

You can help transform lives...

**Please contact
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College Foundation**

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