



Community | Integrity | Teamwork | Results

2023 Stakeholder Update

End of year greetings to all our friends, supporters and partners! With your help, Boots2Roots continues to thrive—with more military members, Veterans and spouses actively enrolled in the program than ever before. In fact, enrollment in our Transition to Work Program is 158% of where it was just one year ago. So far this year we have enrolled 168 new Teammates and assisted with 55 new hires. In total, Boots2Roots' program has now assisted more than 630 Veterans and family members put down roots in Maine—significantly contributing to Maine's workforce and impacting Maine's economy.

We are excited to announce the addition of a new employee to the team. Disa Chadwick is the military spouse of an Air Force Veteran and Teammate who transitioned to Maine in 2021. Disa works as one of our Military Transition Specialists with an emphasis on connecting with military spouses. Engaging military spouses with employment assistance or simply answering questions about life in Maine is an important part of our effort to attract more military families to the state. Disa has made an immediate impact.

Availability of suitable housing presents the most significant challenge to transitioning Veterans and their families. Thankfully, we have a dedicated group of volunteers and industry experts assisting our Teammates with housing. Despite these efforts, we still lose as many as 20% of Teammates, who typically have job offers, but don't move to Maine because of the housing situation. Long-term funding presents another challenge. While we are in a strong financial position for the next few years thanks to a federal grant supported by both Senator King and Representative Pingree, we are still seeking long-term state support. Your help or expertise in either of these areas is welcome.

A special thank you to those who supported Boots2Roots in 2023 with your time, in-kind service, or with a financial investment. If you have not yet supported Boots2Roots, we greatly appreciate your consideration. Boots2Roots remains committed to making Maine the "Destination of Choice" for more of the 200,000 military members and their families transitioning from active-duty service each year. Thank you for helping us move this mission forward for Maine!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. E. Benson".

William (Bill) Benson
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chad Schuman".

Chad Schuman
Board Chair

Boots2Roots Contributing Partners and Stakeholders

5-STAR PARTNERS



GENERAL DYNAMICS
Bath Iron Works



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Sustaining Grants

Benevity Community Impact Fund
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Libra Foundation
Heather Foundation
FGK Foundation
Norway Savings Bank Foundation
M&T Bank Foundation
Standby To Fly Initiative



Thank you also to those who have contributed and wish to remain anonymous

