

# 2019-2020

# Annual Report



SERVICE TO SCHOOL



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# Letter from our CEO



Dear Friends & Supporters,

As we close out the 2019-2020 academic year, we are excited to share this report which highlights our mission's impact, the incredible veterans we serve, college partnerships through our VetLink program, and our plans for a successful future. While there is still more work to be done and veterans to assist, I'd like to highlight two successes that encapsulate Service to School's important work during the past year.

**First, of our veterans who worked with an Ambassador or staff to apply to an undergraduate institution, 63% went on to enroll at a US News & World Report Top 50 College and nearly all enrolled at a Top 150 college.** This means more veterans at colleges with high graduation rates, great career and academic support services, small class size and high faculty engagement, and quality academics and instruction.

**Second, our VetLink college partners grew from 18 to 25 schools, including the addition of three graduate programs.** By joining VetLink, these prestigious universities have demonstrated a commitment to enrolling more veterans and creating environments for veterans to thrive in the classroom and seamlessly transition into the campus community.

I am truly honored to lead this organization, and we owe a debt of gratitude to our volunteers and Ambassadors, our donors and supporters, and those who are forging paths for more veterans in higher-ed. Service to School is privileged to serve the nation's veterans to help them achieve "Admission Accomplished!"

Christine Schwartz

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Schwartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Service to School

# Mission

To prepare transitioning servicemembers and veterans for their next chapter of leadership by **helping them gain admission** to the best college or graduate school possible.



# S2S Programs



## Ambassador Program

S2S Ambassadors work with assigned veterans to provide peer mentorship and assistance through the college and graduate school application process. Assistance includes helping veterans identify the best school fit, essay and personal statement edits, interview preparation, networking tips and invitations, and standardized test preparation.



## VetLink

VetLink is a partnership between S2S and 25 select colleges and universities committed to increasing veteran enrollment on their campuses. Through VetLink, veterans have the opportunity to showcase their military service and academic preparedness as part of the application process resulting in high acceptance and enrollment rates at those universities.



## Guidebooks

Written by admissions experts and student veterans, our guidebooks are tailored to veterans applying to Undergrad, Law School, or Business School and have been distributed and downloaded 5,000+ times.



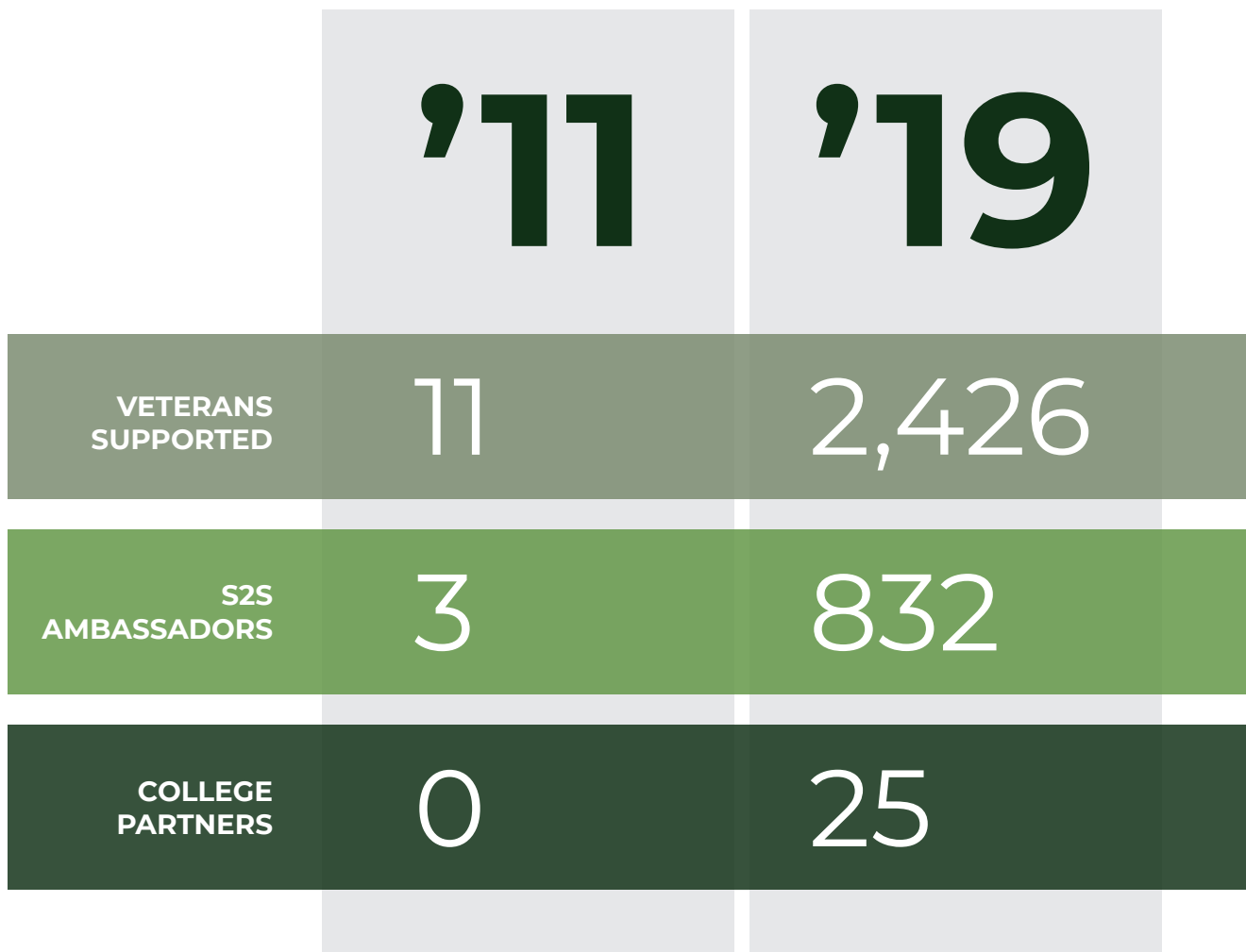
## Events & Networking

Conferences, college visits, happy hours, webinars, student get togethers... the S2S community stays engaged and connected so we can continue to support one another and share our important mission.

# How Far We've Come

**In 2019, Service to School provided assistance and opportunities for support to 2,426 veterans.**

We connected these veterans to staff members and our network of 832 mentors, whom we call Ambassadors, and helped them gain admission to hundreds of colleges and grad school programs including our 24 partner schools.

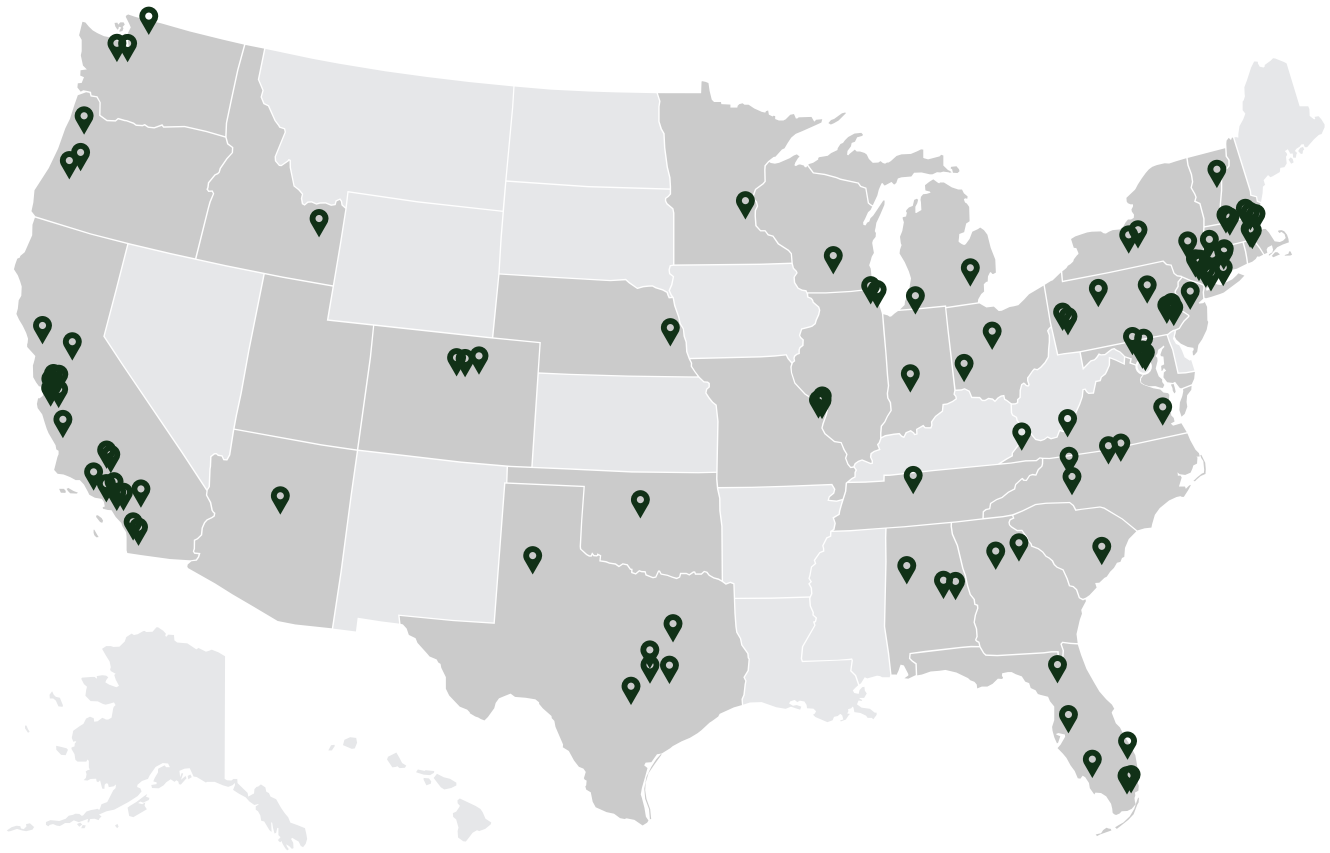


*S2S gave me the confidence to apply to my dream school and then supported me throughout the application process to ensure I got there.*

*– Gage Wrye, US Navy, Pomona College class of 2024*



# Where Our Veterans Enroll



American University  
Amherst College  
Arizona State University  
Auburn University  
Baylor University  
Belmont University  
Boston College  
Brown University  
Bryant University  
Bucknell University  
BYU- Idaho  
Cal Poly - San Louis Obispo  
California Baptist University  
California State University - East Bay  
Cambridge University  
Carnegie Mellon  
Chapman University  
College of Charleston  
Colorado Christian University  
Colorado School of Mines  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Drexel University  
Duke University  
Emerson College  
Emory University  
Faulkner University  
Florida International University  
Fordham University  
George Washington University

Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Hodges University  
Indiana University  
London Business School  
Loyola of Chicago  
MIT  
New York Institute of Technology  
Northeastern University  
Northwestern University  
Notre Dame University  
NYU  
Ohio State  
Oregon State  
Palm Beach Atlantic University  
Penn State  
Pepperdine University  
Pomona College  
Princeton University  
Saint Louis University  
Saint Michaels University  
San Diego State University  
San Francisco State University  
San Jose State University  
Santa Clara University  
Seattle University  
Southwestern University  
St. Andrews College  
St. Louis University  
St. Mary's Law School  
Stanford University

Stony Brook  
Swarthmore College  
Syracuse University  
Tennessee  
Texas A&M  
Texas Tech  
The University of Florida  
Towson University  
Tufts University  
UC Berkeley  
UC Davis  
UC Irvine  
UC Riverside  
UCLA  
UMass - Boston  
UNC - Chapel Hill  
UNC - Charlotte  
University of Alabama  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado - Boulder  
University of DC  
University of Georgia  
University of Maryland  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Oregon  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of San Diego

University of San Francisco  
University of South Florida  
University of Southern California  
University of St. Thomas  
University of Texas - Austin  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
UPenn  
Vassar College  
Virginia Tech  
Wake Forest  
Washington University  
Wesleyan University  
Western Connecticut State  
Western Washington University  
Willamette University  
William & Mary  
Williams College  
Winthrop University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Xavier University  
Yale University

# S2S Student Spotlight



S2S convinced me that applying to Harvard was worthwhile, and weekly conversations with my S2S Ambassador provided a road map to the admissions process. I never would have ended up at Harvard if it wasn't for S2S.

---

**Julian Hopf**

*U.S. Army  
Harvard University  
Class of 2023*



During my time in the Marine Corps, I started volunteering a lot and realized that in order to continue helping people the way that I want, I need to continue my education.

---

**Jessica Nelson**

*USMC  
Smith College  
Class of 2019*



Veterans have experiences, Service to School helps turn them into stories. Those stories become a gateway to a brighter future.

---

**Andres Guerra**

*USMC  
Yale University  
Class of 2022*



# S2S Student Spotlight



Working with Service to School was like having a trusted NCO, because they gave me invaluable advice and kept me focused on the path to my goal.

---

**Clariza  
Macaspac**

*U.S Navy  
Princeton University  
Class of 2023*



Service to School served as an invaluable aid during the application process, especially for getting extra sets of eyes on my essays before submitting. My longtime dream of studying at Stanford is now a reality!

---

**Benjamin  
Works**

*USMC  
Stanford University  
Class of 2022*



I've always had a 'thirst for knowledge'. When my enlistment contract was up, I decided to pursue an education that could help me satiate that thirst. I always knew that I wanted to return to college and it just seemed like the next step in my career.

---

**Michael  
Muir**

*USMC  
Brown University  
Class of 2020*

# S2S Veterans Attend the Country's Best Colleges

**10%\***  
**STUDENT VETERANS**



**10%** of Student Veterans Attend a College with a Graduation Rate Above 70%

**86%**  
**S2S VETERANS**



**86%** of S2S Student Veterans Attend a College with a Grad Rate Above 70%

\*Hill, C. B., Kurzweil, M., Pisacreta, E. D., & Schwartz, E. (2019, January 10). Enrolling More Veterans at High-Graduation-Rate Colleges and Universities. <https://doi.org/10.18665/sr.310816>

*S2S student veterans are 8X more likely to attend colleges with high graduation rates compared to their veteran peers.*



# Our Team

## Staff

**Christine Schwartz**

*Chief Executive Officer*

**Jim Selbe**

*Chief Operations Officer*

**Kasie Valenti**

*Director of Communications  
Ambassador Program Manager*

**Alex Nieves**

*Applicant Program Manager*

## Board of Directors

**Augusto Giacomani**

*(President of the Board)  
Partner, Strategy&*

**Tim Hsia**

*CEO, Media Mobilize*

**General (ret.) Joseph Votel**

*Former CENTCOM Commander  
CEO, BENS*

**Michael Anderson**

*CEO, Stache*

**Anna Ivey**

*CEO, CommonCoach*

**Khalil Tawil**

*VP Strategy & Development,  
iHeartMedia*

## Operational Volunteers

A HUGE thank you to our “operational volunteers” who give so much of their time and energy to serve our organization.

**John Powell**

*Chief Financial Officer*

**Thadeus Hickman**

*Chief Technology Officer*

**John Casey**

*General Counsel*

**Carl Min**

*JD Operations Lead*

**Andrew Nguyen**

*JD Operations Lead*

**Paul Zebb**

*JD Operations Lead*

**Katherine Rowe**

*MBA Operations Lead*

**Glenn Kozawa**

*MBA Operations Lead*

**Chuck Ragland**

*MBA Operations Lead*

**Steven Hojnicky**

*MBA Operations Lead*

**Jared Plotkin**

*Graduate Operations Lead*

# Our National Partners



Craig Newmark  
Philanthropies

ROBERT R.  
**MCCORMICK**  
FOUNDATION



M | MANTON  
FOUNDATION

**Deloitte.**



Service to School cultivated the courage necessary for me to express the strengths of my character and experience and realize my ability to thrive in an academic environment.

**Tina Wong**

*U.S. Army*

*Stanford University class of 2022*

# Our College Partners



**Bowdoin**



**Carleton**

**Colgate University**



**HARVARD  
LAW SCHOOL**



**Stanford**



**Williams**

**Yale**





# The Future of S2S

**Our strategic objectives were developed to keep us focused on delivering the most effective programs and support to veterans while not losing sight or momentum of our important mission.**



**Scale our operations** and programs offered so that we may better serve veterans and transitioning servicemembers.

This includes developing a self-guided technology solution for veterans who may not want or require the assistance of a mentor.



**Expand our VetLink Program** by adding more college and graduate school partners who are dedicated to admitting, enrolling, and supporting student veterans.



**Grow the number of veterans who use our programs** each year through more in-person events and outreach, social media campaigns, and veteran service organization partnerships.



**Improve and update resources** available to our community.

This includes providing better training to our Ambassadors so that they may be the best mentors possible and updating our guidebooks to reflect trends in higher education.

# Support Our Mission

## Donate

Your donation will go directly to creating opportunities for veterans to realize the power of their potential by attending our Nation's top colleges.

**Donate online via credit card or paypal:**

<https://service2school.org/donate/>

**Donate by mail:**

Service to School  
300 3rd Street, Apt 919  
San Francisco, CA 94107-1254

## Volunteer

Make a difference by volunteering as a Service to School Ambassador! Our Ambassadors provide mentorship and academic advice for aspiring student veterans and are an invaluable part of a veteran's path to higher-education.



A photograph of graduation caps being thrown into the air, with hands visible at the bottom reaching up. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

# Service to School **2019-2020** Annual Report

[service2school.org](http://service2school.org)

 [service2school](https://www.instagram.com/service2school)

 [servicetoschool](https://www.facebook.com/servicetoschool)



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