



**For Immediate Release**  
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**WORKING WOMEN HELPING WOMEN WORK®:  
BPW FOUNDATION AND TAPS PARTNER TO OFFER CAREER MENTORING  
FOR WOMEN COPING WITH THE DEATH OF A SERVICE MEMBER**

***Surviving spouses, sisters, mothers and other women grieving a loss can get career mentoring***

WASHINGTON – The [Business and Professional Women's \(BPW\) Foundation](#) and the [Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors \(TAPS\)](#) are partnering to provide career mentoring and resources to military widows, surviving sisters, surviving mothers and other women who have lost a loved one serving in the Armed Forces.

Through BPW Foundation's [Joining Forces Mentoring Plus program](#), (JFMP) surviving spouses and other female family members will have access to its no-cost national mentoring program. The program uses both one-on-one contact and a sophisticated online platform of resources for this deserving cohort of women. Mentorships and resources extend beyond job attainment to support job retention and career advancement.

"Since January is National Mentoring Month we couldn't be more excited to announce our partnership with TAPS to support military spouses, daughters, mothers, sisters and fiancées, who have tragically lost a loved one who served our country," said BPW Foundation CEO Deborah Frett.

"In addition to their grief, these women now face the difficult challenge of rebuilding their lives. Having the option of a meaningful, sustainable career is often key to this effort." Joining Forces Mentoring Plus provides access to free mentoring provided by volunteer working women, Subject Matter Experts for special needs, and a vast number of state-of-the-art career resources through our internet platform.

"And our unique benefit of Working Women Helping Women Work® provides these female military spouses/family members with a truly understanding helping hand," Frett added. The program offers tailored mentoring to assist career development.

"We are so grateful to the Business and Professional Women's Foundation for offering the Joining Forces Mentoring Plus program for free to women grieving the death of a loved one who served in the Armed Forces," said Bonnie Carroll, military widow and TAPS founder.

Carroll said that career mentoring is often very helpful for women grieving the loss of a loved one who served in the Armed Forces. "Families of our fallen troops often change career courses completely following the death of their loved one. They have to build a new life after the

deaths of their loved ones and many have to find a new direction in life. Having such a caring and supportive mentoring program available will be an invaluable resource for the families left behind by our fallen troops.”

If you are a surviving spouse, mother, daughter, sister, or other who has lost a loved one serving in our Armed Forces, you can get involved by visiting [www.JoiningForcesMentoringPlus.org](http://www.JoiningForcesMentoringPlus.org) or contacting [Helpdesk@bpwfoundation.org](mailto:Helpdesk@bpwfoundation.org).

**About TAPS** - The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is the national organization providing compassionate care for the families of America’s fallen military heroes and has offered support to more than 40,000 surviving family members of our fallen military and their caregivers since 1994. TAPS provides peer-based emotional support, grief and trauma resources, grief seminars and retreats for adults, Good Grief Camps for children, case work assistance, connections to community-based care, online and in-person support groups, and a 24/7 resource and information helpline for all who have been affected by a death in the Armed Forces. Services are provided free of charge. For more information go to [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org) or call the toll-free TAPS resource and information helpline at 1.800.959.TAPS.

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**About BPW Foundation** - With a legacy dating back to 1919, BPW Foundation was the first foundation dedicated to conducting research and providing information on working women. The mission of BPW Foundation is to promote systematic change in the workplace by strengthening the capacity of organizations and businesses to create environments that are inclusive and value the skills and contributions of working women, empowering them to achieve their full potential. For more information visit [www.BPWFoundation.org](http://www.BPWFoundation.org).

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