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Booz Allen Hamilton and BPW Foundation Join Forces to Provide Employment and Career Mentoring for Caregivers of Wounded Warriors, Women Veterans, and Military Spouses

(Washington, DC) – Booz Allen Hamilton and Business and Professional Women’s Foundation have announced **Booz Allen Hamilton-Joining Forces Mentoring Plus**, a partnership to support women veterans and military/veteran spouses as they navigate the path to success in the civilian workplace. This new partnership enlists women who work at Booz Allen Hamilton to connect with women veterans and military/veteran spouses and create sustaining “high-tech, high-touch” mentoring relationships.

Booz Allen Hamilton-Joining Forces Mentoring Plus will also include an important new focus on caregivers of wounded warriors. These women face unique challenges in adapting their lives—and employment—often either abandoning successful careers to become full-time caregivers to their disabled loved ones or re-entering the workforce to assume responsibility as primary breadwinners.

Booz Allen’s interest in reaching out to caregivers of wounded warriors grew out of the company’s involvement at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where employee volunteers noted the gap in support for the family members and loved ones attending to the needs of their wounded warriors. Executive Vice President Robin Portman, who serves on the Advisory Council that assisted in the development of BPW Foundation’s *Joining Forces Mentoring Plus*®, immediately saw the opportunity to expand the program’s resources to embrace caregivers. “Military Caregivers serve our nation each day by providing round-the-clock emotional and physical care to our American heroes,” says Portman. “Booz Allen’s partnership with the BPW Foundation’s *Joining Forces Mentoring Plus*® program will support these hidden heroes whose challenges are virtually unseen.”

“We are very excited about the range of expertise and value-added that Booz Allen Hamilton will bring to *Joining Forces Mentoring Plus*®, and to the women veterans and military/veteran spouses they will assist,” said Deborah L. Frett, BPW Foundation CEO. “These women veterans, military/veteran spouses, and caregivers will benefit greatly from the passion and extensive knowledge Booz Allen Hamilton women employee mentors can share,” Frett said, noting that Booz Allen’s consulting practice includes both federal and corporate clients in myriad industries. “We are proud to welcome Booz Allen Hamilton as a Leadership Partner and look forward to working with them and learning from—and alongside--them.”

Booz Allen Hamilton-Joining Forces Mentoring Plus will enlist mentors from the company’s diverse population of women employees across the country to be trained as mentors to serve thousands of caregivers and spouses who make daily sacrifices to care for and support their

service members. This initiative will spotlight women among Booz Allen Hamilton's numerous efforts to support military veterans and their families with career opportunities, community partnerships, and services tailored to meet the unique needs of the greater military community.

In addition to regular meetings with mentees, Booz Allen Hamilton mentors will utilize a custom portal within BPW Foundation's *Joining Forces Mentoring Plus*® internet platform, which provides mentor training and a wide range of resources, information, and subject matter experts to support them as mentors.

BPW Foundation identified mentoring as a critical need of transitioning women veterans during its inaugural Joining Forces for Women Veterans National Summit in October, 2010. First Lady Michelle Obama recognized this "mentorship gap" in the White House's selection of BPW Foundation as the lead organization for a large-scale mentoring initiative to benefit women veterans and military/veteran spouses. BPW Foundation has since forged partnerships with more than 54 corporations and non-profit organizations to fulfill this mandate, and at the recent White House Champions for Change: Women Veterans event, The First Lady recognized BPW Foundation "for the exceptional work that they do every day for women's veterans."

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About BPW Foundation

BPW Foundation supports workforce development programs and workplace policies that recognize the diverse needs of working women, their families, communities, and businesses. BPW Foundation is a 501(c)(3) research and education organization. To learn more, visit www.bpwfoundation.org. Please sign up to join the *Joining Forces Mentoring Plus*® community as a member, mentee, mentor, or subject matter expert at *Joining Forces Mentoring Plus*®.

About Booz Allen Hamilton

Booz Allen Hamilton is a leading provider of management and technology consulting services to the US government in defense, intelligence, and civil markets, and to major corporations, institutions, and not-for-profit organizations. Booz Allen is headquartered in McLean, Virginia, employs approximately 25,000 people, and had revenue of \$5.86 billion for the 12 months ended March 31, 2012. To learn more, visit www.boozallen.com. (NYSE: BAH)

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