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SOLDIER'S BEST FRIEND WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mik Milem Named To Permanent Position

Peoria, Ariz. (April 7, 2022) – Mik Milem of Phoenix has been selected as Executive Director of Soldier's Best Friend (SBF), according to Beth Schryer, Board President. "I am extremely excited to have Mik come on board with our organization. He comes with the highest recommendations and an excellent reputation in the Phoenix non-profit community," she said.

Mik most recently served in multiple roles at the Arizona Burn Foundation, including Interim Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer. He also spent a good portion of his career in ministry in the community and with Grand Canyon University.

Board President Schryer added, "Mik is a true 'people person' and I have high confidence he will be a positive force for the SBF organization, the SBF team, and the veterans we serve."

Mik is a graduate of Oral Roberts University and Methodist Theological School in Ohio with a Master's degree in Education. His many contacts in the community will aid in achieving the mission of Soldier's Best Friend, which is to assist military veterans diagnosed with PTSD/TBI with professionally trained service dogs that help them cope with the effects of their condition in daily life. The dogs are rescued from animal shelters, so the organization really does touch two lives at the same time.

Veterans and dogs train together for a period of six to nine months, at which time the dogs are certified as service animals, and they graduate from the program together. In the eleven years since the organization's founding, more than 330 veteran/dog teams have graduated from the program. The program is supported by gifts and donations and all training is provided free of charge to the veterans.

"I am delighted to be joining Soldier's Best Friend," says Mik. "It is a tremendous organization that fills a critical need for our brave veterans who are suffering as a result of their service to all of us. The dogs provide 24-hour support for their veteran owners, and the bond they develop together truly does change lives for the better."

(more)

About Soldier's Best Friend

Soldier's Best Friend provides U.S. military veterans living with combat-related Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) with Service or Therapeutic Companion Dogs, most of which are rescued from local shelters. The veteran and dog train together to build a trusting relationship that saves two lives at once and inspires countless others.