Graduate Student Scholarship Program

The Military Family Research Institute (MFRI) is offering scholarships to participate in the Battlemind to Home III conference sponsored by the Roudebush VA Medical Facility and MFRI on September 26 & 27, 2012 in Indianapolis, IN. The scholarship will cover participation, accommodation, meals, CEUs and in some cases reimbursement of travel expenses. Students will meet and experience national experts on different subject areas pertaining to military service members and their families. Topics like mental health, warrior reintegration, employment, family resilience and spirituality in the face of war will be presented. Students will have the opportunity to assist in organizing different aspects of the conference, meet the presenters, engage with military families as well as exchange ideas and discuss concepts with their peers.

Applicants must be accepted for or enrolled in a graduate program and have an expressed desire in working with service members and/or their families during their future career.

Application process: Complete the application form including a statement of interest on the work you are planning to do with service members and their families. Applications must be submitted to MFRI by August 31, 2012, 5 p.m. EST.

PROGRAM:

September 25: Graduate students will arrive in Indianapolis in the afternoon. The first evening will be spent meeting the conference organization team, receiving instructions on individual tasks throughout the conference and networking. There will be a two hour session dedicated to learning more about the Battlemind conference series, MFRI, the Roudebush VA Medical Center and the military families participating in the conference. A discussion forum amongst scholarship recipients will be held over dinner.

September 26 & 27: During the conference, each recipient will be paired with a presenter and given the opportunity to become acquainted with this person more closely. The student will function as a host to the presenter, guiding them through the conference and have the opportunity to network with them. Scholarship recipients are free to choose breakout sessions according to their interests. On September 27, after the conference concludes, recipients will meet for an hour of guided discussion and evaluation of the conference and the scholarship program over a light dinner before departing.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will have a better understanding of needs and challenges military families are facing and services that are being provided for them.
- Students will develop a clearer concept on how they can in future work with military families.
- Students will make new contacts and create a network of professionals and experts working with military families.
- Students will gain insight into organizing and implementing a large professional conference.