

Press Release



Heroes' Alliance Signs Education Partnership Agreement with the US Army Ground Vehicle Systems Center

May 30, 2019

MACKINAC ISLAND, Mich.— Heroes' Alliance announced the final phase of its Cooperative Learning Center (CLC) Pilot as it doubles its enrollment for the second consecutive year and builds toward a full capacity program that will graduate 100 high school seniors annually.

The announcement immediately preceded the signing of an Education Partnership Agreement (EPA) between Heroes' Alliance and the US Army Ground Vehicle Systems Center during the annual Mackinac Policy Conference hosted by the Detroit Regional Chamber.

EPAs allow educational institutions the opportunity to access talent, equipment, and resources, which provide opportunities for students to work on Army research projects and support students' engagement in math, science and technology. "This Education Partnership Agreement will provide great opportunities for further collaboration between GVSC and Heroes' Alliance on STEM projects," said Jeff Langhout, Director, GVSC. "We look forward to increasing and improving our knowledge of technology, its reliability, development, and operation in ground vehicle systems. This will further our efforts in supporting Army modernization priorities and improving readiness."

The program will include a standardized curriculum with learning objectives defined in collaboration with various Industry and Academia partners. In addition to validating the curriculum, the pilot will focus on establishing and expanding relationships between a network of partners whose collaborative efforts will create the necessary foundation to provide multi-tiered support to students pursuing STEM careers. Following a successful three-phase pilot, future plans include renovating a permanent Cooperative Learning Center capable of housing 300 students from across southeast Michigan.

A notable component of the CLC is its focus on introducing students to diverse career pathways in STEM that range from the traditional four-year degree path toward an engineering career to a focus on filling critical skilled trades shortages such as welding and CNC machining. "Michigan, including our Ground Vehicle System Center in Macomb, has always played a critical role in our national defense," said Senator Stabenow. "Building a talent pool of smart, capable students who are interested in STEM will help prepare them for future careers in

advanced manufacturing and defense. Thanks to the Army's partnership with Heroes' Alliance, more young people will gain the skills they need to be successful."

"Our goal is to build a community of empowered individuals who see STEM education as a path to success," said Anika Smith, COO, Heroes' Alliance. "This partnership with the US Army will help Detroit students gain access to the world of advanced manufacturing and provide them with a vision of what is possible, not just in their own lives, but for society too."

ABOUT HEROES' ALLIANCE

In response to the national agenda for increased STEM education, Heroes' Alliance has created a platform to engage students, especially underrepresented minorities in Southeastern Michigan, in STEM education through after-school enrichment. In addition to focusing on learning outcomes that increase both knowledge and skills, Heroes' Alliance is committed to creating a systematic means of supporting our students from secondary education through entry into the STEM workforce. For more information, visit <http://heroesalliance.net/>

ABOUT US Army GVSC

Headquartered at the U.S. Army Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich., Ground Vehicle Systems Center is a major research, development and engineering center for the Army Future Command's Combat Capabilities Development Command, and is an enterprise partner in the TACOM LCMC. For more information, visit <https://gvsc.army.mil/>