



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FORDHAMVETS TASK GROUP

Mr. Tom Murphy
Director
Human Resiliency Institute
Fordham University
Lowenstein, Suite 1120
New York, NY 10023

20 December 2010

Dear Tom:

We very much look forward to working in concert with you and Dean Hennessy of the Graduate School of Education to support your Institute's new program "Resiliency Edge for Vets". We applaud and support your goal to enhance Fordham's position as a national leader in helping American servicemen and women to make successful transitions to civilian life after their military service. As you know, *Military Times* has recently ranked us in their top 100 in that regard; your program will surely solidify that standing.

The need, of course, is urgent. Over two million servicemen and women have been deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere over the past decade. Recent returnees and those coming home soon are faced with the stresses of a severe economic downturn. Yours is a timely idea to support them by forging the strengths they earned in the military into tools for their personal and professional lives. Your vision fits with Fordham's traditional mission of service and can enhance the University's support of veterans in need – a commitment dating back to the U.S. Civil War.

We are grateful to the Human Resiliency Institute for conceiving this plan and for inviting us to join with you in better meeting the needs of returning veterans: providing "resiliency workshops" through your Institute, follow-up support through the Graduate School of Social Service, and academic counseling through the FordhamVets Task Group – which can help participants to use the GI Bill to earn a college or advanced degree.

In addition, we are impressed with your early indications of support from national organizations, such as the USO and others, to join with you and Fordham in this effort.

Please keep us apprised of your progress. We look forward to complementing your efforts to make this project a great success.

Sincerely,



Michael Gillan, PhD



Peter Vaughan, PhD
Co-Founders and Chairs
FordhamVets Task Group

Cc: Dean Hennessy, Graduate School of Education