



Community | Integrity | Teamwork | Results

2024 End-of-Year Stakeholder Update

End of year greetings to all our friends, supporters and partners!

With your help, Boots2Roots continues to thrive. In fact, enrollment in our Transition-to-Work Program is at an all-time high with 106 active-duty servicemembers, veterans and military spouses in some phase of transition to Maine. So far, we have enrolled 192 new Teammates and assisted with 77 new hires in 2024. When family members are included, Boots2Roots has now assisted more than 825 new Mainers put down roots—significantly contributing to Maine’s workforce and impacting Maine’s economy.

Our record enrollment is in part due to Boots2Roots’ national marketing efforts. In summer 2024 we began an audio marketing campaign that engages military servicemembers and communities through podcasts and other audio formats. This amplifies ongoing digital, print and programmatic marketing and ensures we are reaching more of the 150,000 servicemembers who leave military service each year. We have also found success sponsoring virtual hiring events with a national and even international military audience. Together these efforts have spurred our record enrollment and hirings. A trend we expect to continue in 2025.

On behalf of the Boots2Roots’ staff, the Board of Directors and all the past and present Teammates and family members, thank you to those who support Boots2Roots with your time, in-kind service, or with a financial investment. With your help we will continue moving this mission forward for Maine!

Sincerely,

William (Bill) Benson
Executive Director

Matt Harmon
Board Chair



**David Rychlik
USMC**

“From the outset, the team at Boots2Roots provided exceptional guidance and resources tailored to my unique needs. Offering personalized career counseling, resume building, and interview preparation that truly made a difference. They went above and beyond to ensure I was well-prepared for the job market.

Thanks to Boots2 Roots, I was able to find a position that not only aligns with my skills and experiences but also supports my long-term career goals. Their commitment to assisting veterans in their transition is truly commendable, and I am incredibly grateful for their support during this crucial time in my life.”

**Congratulations Team
Rychlik!**

Boots2Roots Contributing Partners and Stakeholders

 GENERAL DYNAMICS Bath Iron Works		 5-STAR PARTNERS		 SYSTEMS engineering		 STANDBY TO FLY INITIATIVE	
 NICHOLS PORTLAND		 Dead River Company		 CENTRAL MAINE POWER An AVANGRID Company			
 4-STAR		 TD Bank		 unum		 WELCOME HOME Real Estate	
Victory Partners		 CLARK INSURANCE <small>A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company</small>		 Bangor Savings Bank You matter more!		 M&T Bank	
Command Partners		 Norway Savings Bank		 MARTIN'S POINT HEALTH CARE		 BAIRD	
 Gorham Savings Bank		 CHASE		 WIPFLI			
 Blingie <small>PREMIER LIGHTING</small>		 The Jackson Laboratory <small>Leading the search for tomorrow's cures</small>		 Androscoggin Bank		 GENERAL DYNAMICS Ordnance and Tactical Systems	
Patriot Partners		 AS ATLANTIC Sportswear		 MMG INSURANCE		 KMA	
 Human Resources Consulting.		 GOLD STAR CLEANERS <small>Since 1905</small> The Greener Dry Cleaner www.goldstarcleaners.com TANNING • COIN LAUNDRIES • DRY CLEANERS					
Mission Partners		 maine Department of Economic & Community Development		 JB exp		 MAME <small>MAINE ASSOCIATION OF MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS</small>	
 PORTLAND RADIO GROUP		 LIVE + WORK in MAINE		 BizNet4Vets Connect. Empower. Serve. B2B Networking for Veterans			

Sustaining Grants

- Margaret E. Burnham Foundation
- FGK Foundation
- Heather Foundation
- Gerrish Milliken Foundation

Thank you also to all who have contributed and wish to remain anonymous. Together we are moving this mission forward for Maine's newest veterans and for Maine's workforce.

Boots2Roots' Transition-to-Work program is supported by the U.S. Department of Labor. In FY24, a total of \$503,000, or 90 percent, of the program is financed with federal funds, and \$56,000, or 10 percent, is funded by other sources.