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'Our Military Kids' Expands Grant Program to Children of Fallen Service Members

Alion Science and Technology Makes Large Donation to Fund Expansion

McLEAN, Va. – September 7, 2011 – National nonprofit organization Our Military Kids will expand its program to provide grants for extracurricular activity participation to children of fallen service members who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our country. The expansion is possible due to support from employee-owned company Alion Science and Technology.

Our Military Kids is a beneficiary of the Alion Corporate Giving Program. "Alion Cares" is a company-wide campaign that encourages employees to raise money for charity through creative fundraising techniques and personal contributions. The campaign raised a record \$47,000 for Our Military Kids last year, and another generous donation is anticipated when the 2011 campaign ends in September.

"With their expanded mission, Our Military Kids can now help make the most difficult time in the lives of these kids a little easier," said Peter Jacobs, Vice President and Director of Marketing and Communications at Alion Science and Technology. "Alion is proud to help make this support of the families of fallen warriors a reality. Our employees are raising both contributions and awareness. Every dollar counts, and we want to help ensure that the children of our brave servicemen and women aren't forgotten."

The expansion of the Our Military Kids program to include grants for children of our fallen heroes has been in the works for more than a year. The organization's board of directors approved the expansion in March 2010, but first required a new source of funding in order to move forward.

"As we approach the tenth anniversary of September 11, Our Military Kids is grateful to be able to expand the grant program to children of the fallen who have sacrificed so much," said Linda Davidson, Executive Director of Our Military Kids. "We've received dozens of calls from spouses of the fallen requesting grants for their children, and now we can finally say yes. All of the Alion employees across the country have been instrumental in making this happen and should be proud of their impact."

The grant program will be for children ages 3 through 18 of fallen service members who served in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. Initially, the program will be available to those whose parent's death occurred after January 1, 2011 as a result of service to our country.

A number of third-party studies underscore the importance of involvement in extracurricular activities for military children while a parent is deployed overseas. Participation helps distract children from the negative aspects of deployment and allows them to focus on a positive experience. Our Military Kids has seen these benefits translate to children of Wounded Warriors, and recognizes the same will occur for children of fallen service members.

"The staff members at Our Military Kids hear firsthand stories from grant recipients like Kayla, who was able to move on to second grade with her peers after intensive tutoring, and Devon, whose participation

in karate pulled him out of a depression when his Dad deployed,” added Davidson. “These grants will carry the same importance for children of the fallen – something Alion recognizes, and we hope other companies will, too.”

About Our Military Kids

Our Military Kids was founded in 2004 to support children ages three to 18 of National Guard and Reserve families that often become financially stretched during a deployment. The organization provides \$500 grants for activities such as sports, fine arts, and tutoring programs that nurture and sustain children while a parent is serving our country overseas. Additionally, the program is available to children of Wounded Warriors in all branches of the military. Our Military Kids is funded by corporations, private donors, and government grants. For more information, please visit www.ourmilitarykids.org.

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