



Sample Event Speech

“Wanted to let you know it was better than we could ever have imagined. It all came together and your script played a major role in getting our story out and making people realize the connection between vets, mental health, and employment.”

“Thank you for sending barbara our way. She has been wonderful. Every exchange with her brings down my blood pressure. So nice to work with a competent professional.”

7:41

Bob to stage

Focus: Thank you to guests. Set tone for evening. Introduce Board Chair

Tonight we have a mission. Just as our vets took on the mission of protecting all of us, tonight is our time to serve them.

Welcome to the 2014 Mental Health Association gala, Working for Wellness and Beyond. Each year, this event shines a spotlight on a pressing mental health issue facing our community. Tonight, we look at our veterans. Not at what they face on the battlefield, but at the challenges they face when they transition into their post-military lives, and at the importance of employment as a key to their mental and emotional health.

Tonight we will pay tribute to companies who are leading the effort to employ and support the men and women returning from our armed forces, and we will recognize xxxxxxxx, -- President of xxxxxxxx at xxxxxxxx and a longtime advocate for veterans and their families – for the outstanding leadership and commitment that he and his company have made to employing veterans.

And, we will pay tribute to Staff Sergeant Salvatore A. Guinta, the first living person since the Vietnam War to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, our country's highest award for valor in action. Sgt. Guinta will be introduced by Capt. Jack Jacobs, a Medal of Honor recipient himself, and Sgt. Guinta will share his incredibly moving story with us.

Your mission in all of this is simple. It's about community. Tonight, you need to show Capt. Jacobs, Sgt. Guinta, and other veterans like them, some of whom are here in this room, that they are not alone now that they are back home. That we see how rough the transition to civilian life can be, and that we are committed to getting all veterans the support they need to succeed. Our veterans stepped up when they were called, and did what was needed to protect our country. Tonight, our job is to step up and do what needs to be done to support them.

XXXXXX has a long history of seeing what needs to be done and doing it. Dedicated to the simple mission of promoting mental and emotional well-being, they are leaders, advocates, educators, and innovators in every area of mental health, working to raise awareness, to make communities stronger across the country, and to offer support everywhere and anywhere people are struggling. At this time, I'd like to introduce my friend XXXXXXXX, Executive Chairman of XXXXXXXX, and Chairman of the Board of XXXXXXXX. (3.2 minutes)