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BLOG

Dear Friend,

There is something sacred about September. It is Back to School month; everything starts anew, and you have the opportunity to begin again. I have been going back to school my entire life. Starting as a child, then a college student, as a teacher, a graduate student, and now as a mother, and I find this time of year reenergizing and refreshing.

We, at [The Other Side of Service](#), took some time off this summer to develop fresh new content that we will be sharing with you throughout the month. Look out for more dynamic interview videos and more engaging social media clips. We have also brought on some new talent, formed new partnerships, and added new dimensions to our organization. It follows that the theme of September is **growth and expansion**. Our featured spouse, Danielle Caceres, speaks beautifully about her own professional growth, and we here at OSS are happy to say we, too, are getting better and better.

INTRODUCING

You may remember from her blog earlier this summer, **Danielle Caceres** has built and rebuilt successful photography businesses at duty stations around the world. She has also taken the time to mentor new photographers. Danielle is a shining example of professionalism and altruism. Check out her stunning video introduction [here](#).

Besides reintroducing Danielle Caceres, portrait photographer and mentor, we are also happy to introduce our new blog writer, **Kaia Swift**. Kaia is smart, passionate, and committed to telling the story of professional military spouses. Her story will be released later in the month along with a “how to” blog on working from home. Going forward, her blog will provide both the personal touch, which is the cornerstone of OSS, and the technical know how to help you take the next step in your own professional story.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Lastly, we are proud to announce the Other Side of Service has been invited to become an ambassador organization for the [Military Spouse Employment Partnership \(MSEP\)](#). This is a database of more than 300 companies, which have all committed to hiring military spouses, and offer jobs tailored specially for us. As an ambassador organization, we will be able to work collectively with other organizations to open more doors for professional military spouses. Our official induction is in October. Stay tuned for more details about this exciting partnership.

When we started OSS, we knew storytelling was important, and it would resonate with other spouses. It is one thing to know the value of our mission internally, but it is another thing to feel it from others. We recently introduced OSS at a roundtable of military spouse support organizations. After our presentation, we received hugs from those in attendance because they felt personally connected to our work. That's the power of storytelling, it validates us as people, it empowers one another, and it shows who we are to the rest of the world.

Warmly,

Lynn Waidelich

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