

## EMHS Joins the U.S. ARMY'S Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) Program

EMHS and the U.S. Army signed a memorandum of agreement for a first of its kind partnership in Maine that makes it easier for veterans to pursue careers at EMHS. EMHS is the first employer in Maine to join the U.S. Army's Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program.

Partners in the PaYS program guarantee qualified soldiers an interview and possible employment after their service. This unique program is part of the Army's effort to partner with America's business community and reconnect America with its Army. "Soldiers are really strong, resilient, and talented individuals who have a lot to give to their communities," U.S. Army Colonel Dina S. Wandler, brigade commander of the 1st Recruiting Brigade said as she addressed the crowd gathered for the signing ceremony at the EMHS Cianchette building, "I ask you to welcome them back to the community; welcome them back home." Col. Wandler stressed that the Army's training programs are accredited and that partnerships like this help dispel perceptions that soldiers don't have the right training and qualifications for civilian jobs.

EMHS currently employs more than 384 veterans across its system. Paul Bolin, EMHS vice president and chief human resources officer, says veterans bring with them valuable skills such as leadership, discipline, and the ability to work as a team. "We embrace this relationship with the Army," Bolin said shortly before signing the memorandum of agreement with Col. Wandler, "We have an ongoing and longtime benefit of employing many veterans and active service members among our 12 thousand employees across the state of Maine." The PaYS program is a strategic partnership between the Army and a cross-section of corporations, companies, and public sector agencies.

