

PRESIDENTS' LEADERSHIP AWARD



Derek Reiss *Granite State College*

Derek Reiss (B.S. Communication Studies, 2018), is a Granite State College student.

Derek Reiss is also a Marine. Deployed in Iraq three times between 2003 and 2005, including the first battle of Fallujah in 2004, Derek returned to New Hampshire, where he continued his service through the National Guard and now works in Human Resources in the Guard's Recruit Training Company in Center Strafford, New Hampshire. His military career has taken Derek all over the world, giving him a unique, global perspective.

These experiences and the resulting perspective are not only valuable in the context of Derek's work or as the lens through which he engages as a student at Granite State College, but also are reflected in other aspects of his life. Community service is a calling for Derek, especially related to his love of sports such as hockey. He helps a professional women's hockey team, the Boston Pride, and he coaches kids in Hooksett who play as part of the New Hampshire Jr. Monarchs Youth Hockey organization. "I teach kids how to skate, stickhandle, and pass—the basics of the game. It's amazing seeing their smiles when they're on the ice." Derek's love of hockey is personal. He plays on the veteran's team for the Skate for the 22 Foundation, an organization that uses the sport to reduce the number of veteran suicides by raising funds for awareness and prevention.

Derek Reiss, Granite State College student, US Marine, and a citizen of New Hampshire whose service inspires all of us.



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