



# DMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

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November 28, 2013

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# Giving Thanks

For veterans from Volunteers of America Delaware Valley and Vets Haven and their families. Please join us for these free Thanksgiving events.

**Wednesday, November 27th—2 p.m.– 5 p.m.**

Bowling at Westbrook Lanes in Brooklawn sponsored by Barb's Harley

**Thursday, November 28th— 10:45 a.m.– 1 p.m.**

Thanksgiving dinner on the Battleship New Jersey, Camden  
All attendees receive a Sixers t-shirt

**Friday, November 29th—7 p.m.**

Sixers game, Wells Fargo Center with food from PJ Whelihan's

**RSVP to Ms. Ball by November 15th at 856-966-0909**

HIGHLIGHTS



# 2013 Hiring Our Heroes Job Fair – Holmdel, NJ

NEW JERSEY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL/  
VIETNAM ERA MUSEUM & EDUCATIONAL CENTER

One Memorial Lane  
Holmdel, NJ 07733  
December 5, 2013

**HIRING FAIR: 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: 9:00 A.M.**

This hiring event is being hosted by the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation (NJVVMF) and the American Legion, and is being conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation; NJ Committee, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR); NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development; the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS); the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; NJ State Parole Board; NBC News, and other local partners.

## EMPLOYERS

Must have available jobs.

Register for **FREE** at [HOH.Greatjob.net](http://HOH.Greatjob.net)

## JOB SEEKERS

*Veterans, Active Duty Military, Members Of Guard And Reserve Components, Military Spouses*

Register for **FREE** at [HOH.Greatjob.net](http://HOH.Greatjob.net)

WALK-INS WELCOME

A workshop for veterans and military that focuses on resume writing, tips for successfully navigating hiring fairs, military skill translation, and interviewing will start at 9:00 A.M.

For registration questions, please contact [hiringourheroes@uschamber.com](mailto:hiringourheroes@uschamber.com) or call 202463-5807.



VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



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NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
LWD



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## COMMITTEE STRIVES TO STRENGTHEN EMPLOYER SUPPORT FOR GUARD, RESERVE

**WASHINGTON** - After repeatedly releasing their workers who also serve in the reserve and National Guard for more than 900,000 deployments since 9/11, one might expect employers to be growing weary of personnel management issues military departures may create in workplaces.

But Ronald Young, executive director for the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, said he finds it's just not the case.

"Employers know this is important for the national security of this country," Young said during an interview with American Forces Press Service.

"The United States has a voluntary force, and the reserve component represents close to 50 percent of the total force," he said. "Without employers who support their employees during their time in uniform for weekend assemblies, additional training and mobilizations, some might be less likely to serve in the reserve components. So that employer support is critical."

By law, employers have mandatory obligations to their Guard and reserve employees. The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act protects service members' reemployment rights when returning from military service. It also bans hiring discrimination based on a candidate's military service or obligation.

"But many employers go above and beyond what the law requires," Young said. Some employers continue providing pay and other benefits when their employees are mobilized. Others send care packages to their deployed workers and provide support to their families.

"The overwhelming, vast majority of employers tell me they see this as just doing their duty," Young said. "They say, 'This is our way of helping to do our duty as our employees go off to war - by taking care of their families and continuing their benefits.'"

For the past 42 years, ESGR has worked to generate that level of support.

Recognizing that a positive employer-employee relationship is a two-way street, ESGR helps ensure employers and reserve component members understand their rights as well as responsibilities under the law, Young explained.

ESGR's network of 4,900 volunteers in all 50 states, all U.S. territories and the District of Columbia wear a variety of hats to promote the positive employer-employee relationships on which the reserve components depend, he said.

They're advocates, promoting the importance of employer support and serving as a link between employers and the Defense Department. They're also educators, offering employers and employees neutral, no-cost information and resources. They serve as champions, administering an extensive awards program that recognizes employers whose human resource personnel policies go above and beyond the spirit of the USERRA law. And when occasional conflicts arise between employers and employees related to military service, these volunteers become mediators who strive to help the

parties overcome misunderstandings and resolve their issues.

In one of ESGR's newest roles, they also help bridge the gap between employers who would like to hire military employees and National Guard members and reservists looking for employment through the Hero2Hired program.

"Over the past year, ESGR has interfaced with about 161,000 employers across the country," Young reported. "That kind of outreach would be impossible if not for our voluntary committee members."

"On a day-to-day basis, they meet with employers across the country and go to reserve component unit formations to talk ... about the law and their responsibilities, and the services we have," he said. "Seeing what they do, day in and day out, I know they serve as a readiness enhancer for units out there across the country."

One of the volunteers' most rewarding missions, Young said, is to present awards to companies and supervisors who demonstrate outstanding support for their Guard and reserve employees. Last year, more than 11,000 employees nominated their bosses for ESGR's Patriot Award, which recognizes individual supervisors for their support.

In addition, ESGR state committees present the "Above and Beyond Award" to employers whose support surpasses the legal requirements of the USERRA law. Each year, state committees present the Pro Patria Award to one small, large and public-sector employer in each state or territory that has provided the greatest support to reserve-component employees through leadership practices and personnel policies.

The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the most prestigious ESGR recognition, presented each year to employers who serve as national models for their support for the Guard and reserve.

As a sign of growing support, about 58,000 additional employers signed a formal Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve last year, affirming their commitment to their employees who serve in the reserve components, Young reported.

This simple act sends a strong message to those employers' Guard members and reservists, but also helps instill a workplace culture that recognizes and values the contributions reserve component members make to U.S. national defense, he said.

This ongoing support will remain critical as operations wind down in Afghanistan and fewer reserve component members are called on to serve combat deployments, he said.

"This nation owes a great debt of gratitude to the employers of the Guard and reserve across this country. Over the past 12 years, they have been phenomenal," Young said. "Looking to the future, ESGR will continue to leverage that support because the United States will continue to depend on its reserve components."

"The Guard and Reserve are no longer just a strategic force to be put on the shelf to await the next engagement somewhere," he added. "And because the nation will continue to depend on their service, the support of their employers will remain critical."

# HIGHLIGHTS

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and hireAbility presents:

## 4TH ANNUAL TARGETED JOB FAIR SCHEDULE A HIRING EVENT

Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2013  
Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm  
Location: Camden County One-Stop  
NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
2600 Mt. Ephraim Avenue, Suite 103  
Camden, NJ 08104

*FEDERAL AGENCIES PARTICIPATING: US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR;  
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION;  
NAVAL SUPPLY SYSTEM COMMAND; VETERANS ADMINISTRATION;  
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION; US CUSTOMS BORDER PROTECTION;  
US CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SERVICES; BUREAU OF PRISONS;  
AND OTHERS TO BE DETERMINED*

## ARE YOU

- ☑ An eligible DVRS Consumer seeking Federal Employment with or without a Professional Degree
- ☑ A disabled veteran

You may be eligible to attend an event that could connect you directly with federal hiring agencies. This is by Appointment ONLY. Find out if you are eligible by calling our contact person, Irene Perez at 856-614-2500 [irene.perez@dol.state.nj.us](mailto:irene.perez@dol.state.nj.us).

## RESUME WORKSHOP FOR U.S. VETERANS

Space is Limited! Reserve Today!

3rd Thursday of Every Month

1:00-2:00pm

24 DeGrasse St. Paterson, NJ



### Upcoming Workshops:

11/21/13, 12/19/13,

1/16/14, 2/20/14, 3/20/14

### To Register:

Davon LeGrier  
973-279-7100  
ext. 10

Workshop run by U.S. Veteran and Catholic Family  
and Community Services Director of Human

Resources : Vinnie Torres

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# HIGHLIGHTS



Brig. Gen. James J. Grant, Director, Joint Staff to the Adjutant General of New Jersey, right, pins first sergeant rank to 1st Sgt. Kryn P. Westhoven, center, as Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty, left, Public Affairs Officer, affixes the new rank on Westhoven's patrol cap Nov. 27, 2013 at the Lawrenceville offices of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Westhoven will assume the first sergeant position of the 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen / Released)



US Family Health Care, a Tricare Prime option providing a civilian based managed care network, will be holding Question and Answer sessions to provide information for servicemembers and families.

USFHP pushes forward effective Jan. 1, 2014, and they are adding an extra benefit to their already robust benefit package! Eye glasses for \$0 to low cost. To hear more about USFHP and this added benefit, come to one of their upcoming information sessions listed below:

**Joint Military and Family Assistance Center**  
1048 US Highway 206, Bordentown  
December 3 & 12  
12 to 4 p.m.

**JB-MDL McGuire Library**  
2603 Tuskegee Airmen Ave, JB-MDL  
December 3 & 16  
12 to 4 p.m.

**Pemberton Community Library**  
Brownmills, NJ 08015  
December 17  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Mount Laurel Library**  
100 Walt Whitman Ave, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054  
December 6 & 13  
12 to 4 p.m.

**Camden County Veterans Affairs**  
3 Collier Dr., Lakeland Complex, Blackwood, NJ 08012  
Daily  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**NJDMAVA Bldg**  
IASD Section,  
101 Eggerts Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08234  
December 4, 11 & 18  
Contact Josephine Gray at 347-501-2308 for hours

**177th Fighter Wing**  
Bldg. 229, 400 Langley Rd., Egg Harbor Twp, NJ 08234  
December 10 & 17  
12 - 4 p.m.

Call 1-800-241-4848 option 3 or visit [www.usfhp.net](http://www.usfhp.net) for more information.



## VA Marks 10-Year Anniversary of MyHealtheVet

**WASHINGTON** — In recognition of the 10th anniversary of its award-winning personal health record, My HealtheVet, the Department of Veterans Affairs is urging all veterans and service members to join the millions already accessing VA health care information and services online. VA is marking this milestone by spreading the word about the benefits of My HealtheVet Personal Health Record, such as VA prescription refill, VA notes, VA Blue Button and secure messaging with VA health care providers.

“VA is a pioneer and a leader of health information technology that improves patient-provider relationships, embraces wellness and improves health outcomes for the brave men and women who have served our Nation,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “VA invites all veterans and service members to get online to become more active partners in their health care.”

Throughout November, My HealtheVet coordinators - at all 151 VA medical centers - organized community events, host enrollment and education health fairs, lead training sessions and work with VA Voluntary Service to showcase how My HealtheVet contributes to more informed and more engaged veteran patients. VA continues to build its My HealtheVet online health record, adding new online tools and features, and My HealtheVet coordinators are geared up to accept new My HealtheVet enrollees throughout November.

“VA is dedicated to providing veterans with the best experience possible, both at VA facilities and online,” said Under Sec-

retary for Health, Dr. Robert A. Petzel. “We are proud to celebrate a decade of online access for veterans and look forward to a future of even more access to meet their evolving needs.”

My HealtheVet is VA’s award-winning website that offers veterans secure access to portions of information in their VA health care records anywhere and anytime. Its web-based tools give users greater control over their care and wellness, helping them become active partners in their health care.

In addition to allowing veterans access to their records, My HealtheVet lets them save, print and share their health information using the VA Blue Button, refill VA prescriptions online and track their health activities. Veterans who upgrade their accounts, free of charge, can use secure messaging to communicate electronically with their VA health care teams between visits. They can also view VA appointments, get VA wellness reminders, access VA lab results and more.

“We urge veterans and service members to go online during November and throughout the year,” said Theresa Hancock, director of the My HealtheVet program. “My HealtheVet offers a flexible and convenient way for veterans to become engaged in their health care and well-being.”

My HealtheVet is celebrating 10 years of online access. All veterans and service members are encouraged to enroll or upgrade today at [www.myhealth.va.gov](http://www.myhealth.va.gov).



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**New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff – The Adjutant General  
Brig. Gen. James J. Grant – Director, Joint Staff  
Raymond Zawacki – Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs  
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty – Public Affairs Officer  
Army Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley - Public Affairs Specialist  
Air Force Tech. Sgt. Armando Vasquez – Public Affairs Specialist