

ACVETEO - ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT,
TRAINING AND EMPLOYER OUTREACH

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
January 23, 2019

SUMMARY MINUTES

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND
EMPLOYER OUTREACH (ACVETEO)

U.S. Department of Labor
Frances Perkins Building
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Room C-5320, Conference Room 6
Washington, D.C. 20210

PARTICIPANTS:

CHAIRPERSON ERIC EVERSOLE, ACVETEO

GREGORY GREEN, Assistant DFO

TONY LOWE, VFW

MARK TOAL, DOL VETS

MIKE MILLER, DoD

LORI ADAMS, ACVETEO

TIM GREEN, Director, Office of Strategic Outreach, Department of
Labor VETS

SAM SHELLENBERGER, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations,
Department of Labor VETS

IVAN DENTON, DOL VETS

AREIL DeJESUS, ACVETEO

JONATHAN VANDERPLAS, DOL VETS

IN THE PUBLIC:

BILL OFFUTT, Victory

WELCOME AND REMARKS

Chairman Eric Eversole, ACVETEO, welcomed the attendees present. **Sam Shellenberger**, Department of Labor VETS, made opening remarks, highlighting updates in the TAP program (as a result of the NDAA) and a couple aspects of military spouse employment. **Mr. Shellenberger** discussed funding opportunities for the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP).

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Chairman Eversole also amended the agenda to reflect a last minute panel by **Mr. Mike Miller**, DoD, on an update on some of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) redo process.

TAP PRESENTATION

Mr. Miller explained that there's a perception among many people that DoD has not been as open with the process that the organization does within TAP; he wants to dispel this perception so that the DoD is transparent with what it's doing with regards to the progress within the TAP curriculum. He passed around an information sheet to the Committee advising the Participants if they want to be part of shaping, creating, advising the TAP curriculum and that the Participants are to send back any recommendations and comments by February 20, 2019 for DoD to review.

Once DoD has finished independently reviewing ACVETEO's recommendations, DoD will reconvene with ACVETEO to identify everything that was received and what was done with it. This

way, the Panelists will understand how DoD received their input; how the information was looked at; as well as what was accepted and reject and why.

Mr. Shellenberger also explained that down the road, DoD will look at policy, all aspects of TAP, and their interagency partners to the degree that the partners want to observe what DoD did, how it went, and that they want to participate as well.

ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Chairman Eversole took a vote to confirm the minutes from the previous meeting.

DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF THE FY18 ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman Eversole opened a discussion to review the recommendations from the FY18 Annual Report. He began by reviewing the recommendations from the Barriers to Employment Subcommittee.

BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT SUBCOMMITTEE BRIEFING

The Barriers to Employment Subcommittee had three (3) recommendations to aid in the direction of ACVETEO. The recommendations are as follows:

- 1) DOL should add Vietnam veterans as a special population under the Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JSVG) program.
- 2) Congress should add military spouses who are unemployed after relocating to a new duty station or separating from the military service as a covered

person under JSVG to better assist military spouses in obtaining employment.

- 3) DOL should track military spouses through transition services using flexible tracks.

Mr. Greg Green began discussion on the first point by drawing attention that a Veterans program letter is working its way through Department of Clearance to identify Vietnam-era veterans as a special population under Title 38.

Mr. Greg Green also stated that VETS proposed legislation regarding unemployed military spouses in their FY20 budget submission.

A discussion ensued about DOL adding different tracks for military spouses under the TAP program. VETS believes creating flexible tracks for military spouses would allow military spouses who are unable to attend regular transition services, the access to resources around their schedule. VETS is working with Women's Bureau on this concept. It includes a 1.5 million request for the FY20 budget submission to develop a virtual military spouse specific TAP curriculum.

TRANSITION AND TRAINING SUBCOMMITTEE BRIEFING

Chairman Eversole continued reviewing the four (4) recommendations provided by the Transition and Training Subcommittee. The recommendations are as follows:

- 1) DOL should continue to improve and market existing resources for veterans that highlight careers by

occupational fields based on earning potential, projected job growth, and ease of entry.

- 2) DOL should research and determine the need for network and communication tools and opportunities for military spouses as it pertains to employment.
- 3) DOL should develop the systematic capability to track and report on warm handovers or transitioning service members from DoD to DOL.
- 4) DOL should have access to the National Directory of New Hires, with the ability to match databases and evaluate outcomes.

Mr. Greg Green and **Mr. Ivan Denton**, ACVETEO, have a discussion regarding how VETS is continuing its working evaluating and improving upon employment information provided to veterans and transitioning service members.

Mr. Greg Green also clarified that along with the Women's Bureau, VETS developed a military spouse page on veterans.gov to help with licensing and credentialing, portability, and will continue to partner find opportunities to improve the employment situation for military spouses.

Mr. Greg Green and **Mr. Denton** explain DOL's role in tracking and reporting these warm handovers of service members. DOL VETS' purpose is to make sure the safety nets are there to help those most in need. **Mr. Denton** and **Ms. Lori Adams**, ACVETEO, believe that having career counselors, VOR tech contract, and

automated tools to track this information because right now, the number that's being tracked is much lower than what DOL knows it is.

Mr. Shellengberger and **Mr. Greg Green** discuss how VETS is working with ASP CEO to begin ND&H data matching in FY19. VETS believes access to this information would be valuable in tracking outcome measures for VETS' programs that provide services to transition service members.

DIRECT SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

Lastly, **Chairman Eversole** reviewed the four (4) recommendations provided by the Direct Services Subcommittee. The recommendations are as follows:

- 1) VETS should create a campaign on employer outreach specifically utilizing the jobs for veterans, state grants-funded positions to educate and inform employers on the advantages of hiring veterans and military spouses. They also should increase awareness and education on the Uniform Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).
- 2) DOL should increase employer outreach and promotion of the Office of Disability Employment Policy to help employers fully understand how best to serve employees with disabilities.
- 3) The Office of Transition and Economic Development (OTED) should collaborate with DOL and DoD to

standardize the look, feel, and functionality of all resource platforms to reduce confusion and enhance customer experience.

- 4) The TAP program and the National Veteran Training Institute (NVTI) should integrate how artificial intelligence was used by human resources in the talent acquisition process into their curriculums.

Mr. Greg Green reported that VETS is currently developing guidance that will encourage JVSG staff members to include information about the Hire Vets Medallion Program (HVMP) when meeting with employers. Additionally, VETS is developing an enhanced outreach education program for USERRA, to better communicate with employers across the nation. **Mr. Miller** asked clarifying questions about if there is synchronization with the DoD's employer support of the Guard and Reserve. **Ms. Adams** added that she's been working with NVTI and the development of their curriculum for their new business services class and she'll be able to put in a request to add that the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program be referenced as a great point of contact as the promotion for the Medallion Project.

Mr. Shellenberger and **Mr. Greg Green** initiated a discussion about how VETS routinely works with ODEP to help employers to be better informed on how they can assist employees with disabilities. **Mr. Shellenberger** highlighted that VETS has

participated in two ODEP-coordinated activities, including a workshop on Partnership on Employment & Accessible Technology (PEAT).

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Bill Offutt, Victory, asked clarifying question about **Mr. Shellenberger** is going to do more outreach for military spouses and what impact that might have; what is going to be embargoed and what's not embargoed; and when he might expect to have that announcement. **Mr. Shellenberger** explained that the development of a military spouse curriculum for the TAP program is what's going to be embargoed.

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Eversole thanked the public for showing up, DOL VETS, and the Committee for all their hard work. **Mr. Denton** thanked DOL VETS for setting up the NVTI training that he and **Mr. Tony Lowe**, VFW, attended. **Chairman Eversole** adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.