

Incorporating Veterans into Rural Health Employment



Needs Assessment

- Washington State is 10th in the nation for the number of returning veterans reentering the civilian workforce
- At Joint Base Lewis-McCord (Tacoma, Washington) returning soldiers are re-entering civilian life at a rate of 600 per month for the next 5 years
- Many of the returning veterans were trained in a health care field. Of those returning, 32% are unemployed. Of those veterans returning with healthcare specific skills, education and experience 39% are unemployed.
- According to the VA Office of Rural Health about 3.4 million veterans (41% of total) enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care System live in rural areas of the country.



Goal of the NOSORH Grant

- Integrate military veterans with healthcare related skills and expertise into the rural healthcare workforce of Washington State.
- Create a program which can be easily replicated by other states.
- Build collaboration through a cooperative effort of the SORH, healthcare training/certification entities, rural healthcare organizations, and the state's military and veteran organizations



Accomplishments

- In conjunction with the SORH and a non-profit organization, Hire America's Heroes, identified and formed an advisory committee which has met 6 times beginning in April
- Reviewed draft gap analysis between military training and state licensure requirements
- Identified the percent of separating military personnel in each healthcare occupation in Washington



Accomplishments

- Developed relationships with military and VA personnel divisions in Washington
- Identified training opportunities to bridge potential gaps in training
- Launched first webinar for HR managers
- Steering committee members are assisting Hire America's Heroes to host a reverse career fair on base and at Madigan Army Medical Center.





SAVE THE DATE!
October 9, 2013

WEBINAR
HIRING QUALIFIED HEROES
INTO WASHINGTON HEALTHCARE
SETTINGS

A free Webinar designed to provide community health centers, private clinic, and hospital hiring managers an understanding of

- Who is transitioning from the U.S. Army and Air Force via Joint Base Lewis-McChord?
- How many of those transitioning have healthcare backgrounds?
- What are their healthcare skill sets when compared with civilian healthcare workers' skill sets?
 - licensure and education questions
 - common perceptions and misperceptions of both the transitioning forces, and of hiring managers
 - any questions you may have

WHAT: HIRING QUALIFIED HEROES INTO WA HEALTHCARE SETTINGS
WHO: Presenters: Robin J. Baker, Transition Services Manager, Joint Base Lewis-McChord and Kristine Barnes, Strategic Training/Continuity Coordinator and Sarah Street Regional Director, Office of U.S. Service Party Military
WHEN: Wednesday, October 9th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Get ahead and set your back, so we can see or face you!
WHERE: Live office, or convenient space if you want to make plans to brainstorm
HOW: Enter your free Webinar name at <https://www.1.amazonaws.com/webinar/11804411>

Women Washington
 Joint Base Lewis-McChord
 206.462.7277
 @WomenWA.org

 Washington Association of
 Community and Hospital Health Centers
 206.366.4028
 @WACHHC.org

Next steps and Contact Information

- Committee prioritized goals and has agreed to continue to meet!
- SORH revised WWAHEC contract to include staffing the committee
- Jodi Perlmutter, CEO/Executive Director, Western Washington Area Health Education Center
[**Jodi@wahaec.org**](mailto:Jodi@wahaec.org)


