

**Veterans' Employment-Related Assistance Program (VEAP)
 PY 2012/13
 Award List and Project Summaries**

On June 4, 2013, \$4 million of Workforce Investment Act Governor's Discretionary 15 Percent funds and 25 Percent Dislocated Worker Additional Assistance funds were awarded to 10 organizations under the VEAP PY 2012/13 Solicitation for Proposals. Project descriptions, award amount, and contact information are listed below. Award decisions are final.

Applicant Name	County	WIA 15 Percent Amount	WIA 25 Percent Amount	Total Award Amount
Community Career Development, Inc.	Los Angeles	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Foothill Workforce Investment Board (Foothill Employment and Training Consortium)	Los Angeles	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board	Fresno	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
LA Works	Los Angeles	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Managed Career Solutions, Inc.	Los Angeles	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
North Central Counties Consortium	Colusa, Glenn, Sutter and Yuba	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
North County Interfaith Council (Interfaith Community Services)	San Diego	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Orange County Workforce Investment Board	Orange	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Sacramento Employment and Training Agency	Sacramento	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Swords to Plowshares	San Francisco	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
Total		\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000

Community Career Development, Inc.
3550 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Contact:

Ms. Gloria Moore
(213) 805-4273

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: The targeted industry sectors are: Security, Logistics/Goods Movement/IT, Biomedical Science, Transportation/Public Transit and Healthcare.

Targeted Participants to be Served: Recently separated and honorably discharged veterans, veterans with service-connected disabilities, campaign veterans, eligible spouses and veterans with barriers to employment.

Key Partners: LA County Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, EDD Veterans Program Staff, LWIBs, Greater LA VA Healthcare System, USC Center for Innovation & Research on Veterans & Military Families, UCLA, Community Colleges; City Biomed Intermediary, LA Chamber of Commerce, Employers, Certified Vocational Trainers, Veterans Service Providers (VA Vet Center, VOALA, Salvation Army, Soldiers Project), CBO/NPO social service, transitional housing and Legal Aid/Public Counsel/Child Support.

Project Description: A full-service, high-growth sector-based employer-driven Veterans Employment Initiative that combines workforce development strategies with job-readiness pre-employment training, industry-recognized, and certificated short-term vocational education. Other services include, case management, professional counseling/life-coaching, support services and access to a broad range of on and off-site services, including housing, mental health and substance abuse counseling, legal aid, claims filing and direct referrals to veterans' and social service providers to assist recently separated and other veterans.

Expected Outcomes: All of the eligible participants enrolled (160) will be placed in pre-employment and vocational training; at least 80% (128) will complete vocational training; at least 70% (112) will obtain an industry-recognized certification; at least 60% (96) will secure employment and at least 81% (78) will have retained employment after 6 months with average annual earnings of at least \$28,000.

Foothill Workforce Investment Board
1207 East Green Street
Pasadena, CA 91106

Contact:

Ms. Dianne Russell-Carter
(626) 584-8393

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: The industries targeted are: transportation (truck driving, auto technology, and diesel technology); security; professional and business services (executive assistant, office applications specialist, accounting, managers); health services (EMT, dental assistant, medical assistant, pharmacy technician, home health aide, LVN, respiratory tech, medical secretary and health informational technicians); education (teachers); and construction trades.

Targeted Participants to be Served: The targeted participants in order of priority are as follows: recently separated veterans, campaign veterans, veterans with significant barriers, and female veterans. Recently separated veterans shall constitute a minimum of 75% of total veterans served.

Key Partners: Because the entire Foothill Workforce Investment Board (WIB) staff is located in an EDD Workforce Services office, the WIB and EDD Veterans program staff has developed an on-going and successful partnership. It involves joint referral and co-case management. In addition to the EDD, the Foothill WIB has developed linkages with employers, Chambers of Commerce, mental health providers, housing programs, and local veteran organizations that will provide services to program participants.

Project Description: There are six service delivery essentials required to achieve the project's goals. They are (1) comprehensive assessment, (2) vocational training leading to industry recognized certification, (3) on-the-job training, (4) job readiness and retention services, (5) co-case management across partner agencies and, (6) employer engagement.

Expected Outcomes: The Foothill WIB proposes to enroll 70 eligible veterans and place 65% into unsubsidized employment. Foothill also proposes to achieve a retained employment rate of 81% and average earnings of \$13,700.

Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board
2125 Kern Street, Suite 208
Fresno, CA 93721

Contact:

Mr. Blake Konczal
(559) 490-7102

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: The targeted industries are: energy generation/electric utility and green construction.

Targeted Participants to be Served: The Returning Heroes to Work (RHW) program will target recently separated veterans, service-connected disabled veterans, campaign veterans, veterans with significant barriers to employment and eligible spouses of veterans who are interested in pursuing careers in the expanding energy generation/utility sector. The program will serve 90 veterans, 72 of them recently separated.

Key Partners: Partnering organizations include Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA) in California's Central Valley: The Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board, the Kings County Workforce Investment Board and the Madera County Workforce Investment Board. The LWIAs will partner with their respective EDD Veteran program staff. Additional partners include: Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Fresno/Madera/Tulare/Kings Building Trades Council, Fresno/Madera/Tulare/Kings Central Labor Council, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers–Local 1245, State Center Community College District, and West Hills Community College District.

Project Description: The RHW Program will build on the success of the PG&E PowerPathways™ program in which dislocated workers, including several cohorts of veterans have been prepared for employment and placed in careers at PG&E, Southern California Edison and other companies in the growing energy industry. PowerPathways™ combines basic skills instruction, technical education, and physical training along with counseling and supportive services, work readiness, resume building and team building. During the past three years, the FRWIB has used the PowerPathways™ to supply four cohorts of workers to PG&E and Southern California Edison, with an overall hire rate greater than 70%.

Expected Outcomes:

100% Placement in Education or Training; 80% Completed training by the end of the grant period; 70% attained recognized Certificate/Degree; 59% Placement in Unsubsidized Employment; 81% Retained employment (6 months); Average earnings \$13,700.

LA Works
5200 Irwindale Avenue
Irwindale, CA 91706

Contact:

Ms. Kathryn Ford
(626) 960-3964

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: LA-VEAP will address the shortage of skilled workers in the healthcare industry.

Targeted Participants to be Served: The LA-VEAP project will outreach, recruit, and enroll women veterans (75% will be recently separated) in Los Angeles County. It is estimated that there are over 30,000 women veterans in Los Angeles County. Women veterans have higher rates of diagnoses of physical and mental health needs than male veterans, and 1-in-5 women screen positive for military sexual trauma. Women veterans have higher rates and higher risks of homelessness than male veterans and are more likely to have a service-connected disability rating, are less likely to use VA health care, and are more likely to have no earnings or income, and live in poverty.

Key Partners: Our network of partners include the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board and the EDD to provide outreach and project support; veteran serving organizations (L.A. County Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Vet Hunters, East L.A. Vet Center, Military Women in Need) to provide outreach, recruitment and support services to the women veterans; employers (Los Angeles Department of Health Service, Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital, East Valley Medical, ONEgeneration Adult Day Services, Casa Del Sol Adult Health Care) to provide up-to-date information on training and skills development needs, education (Mt. San Antonio Community College, Bassett ROP, New Horizons Computer Learning Center) to provide basic skills, occupational and customized training, and Van Nuys Treatment Center and Doug Yost, MFT to provide individual therapy, group therapy and substance abuse treatment.

Project Description: The LA-VEAP project will recruit, train and place 50 female veterans in the healthcare industry. Seventy-five percent (75%) of project participants will be recently separated veterans. Through a comprehensive approach and with the support of local veteran service organizations, employers and education, the LA-VEAP project will provide: 1) intensive case management; 2) access to mental health services to address PTSD, military sexual trauma, family reunification and issues in transitioning to civilian life; 3) training in demand and high-growth healthcare occupations such as LVN, certified medical assistants, physical therapy aides, and health informatics; 4) support services to address barriers to employment; and 5) job placement and employment retention services.

Expected Outcomes: LA-VEAP project goals are as follows: 82% of the participants will complete training; 76% will complete a degree or certificate, 70% will be placed in unsubsidized employment, and 83% will retain employment with average annual earnings \$13,700.

Managed Career Solutions, Inc.
3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 405
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Contact:

Mr. Philip Starr
(213) 355-5312

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: The Los Angeles Veterans Works (LAVW) project will target six distinct, high-growth industry sectors with delineated Career Pathways to high-wage, high demand occupations: 1) Construction, pre-apprenticeship training with the Los Angeles County WIB and LA/Orange County Building Trades Council/AFL-CIO; 2) Entertainment, training for behind the camera jobs, at West Los Angeles College with IATSE mentored externships; 3) Healthcare, nursing and allied health training including on-the-job training; 4) Hospitality; living wage employment at premier Los Angeles Hotels; 5) Information Technology, Health, Education and Security IT training and, 6) Security.

Targeted Participants: The LAVW plans to enroll 200 Veterans and eligible spouses with 160 (80%) being recently separated veterans. Targeted veterans have significant barriers to employment including disability, limited civilian work history, housing, income and gaps in their civilian education. Targeted veterans have a demonstrated need to acquire industry recognized certificates to obtain employment in one of the six targeted industry sectors of focus.

Key Partners: The LAVW is a mature Los Angeles County Partnership, including the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles/Ventura EDD Workforce Services Branch. The 42 LAVW advisory board partners are inclusive of Veterans Organizations, Employers in all six sectors, the LA/Orange County Building Trades Council (AFL-CIO), Community Based Organization, Economic Development Entities, American Job Centers, mental health and community colleges and other training providers. LAVW partnership has placed 890 veterans (623 recently separated) in high-wage, high-growth jobs. LAVW engages in continuous LMI update to assure training is always relevant to existing employer recruitment needs in the targets high-wage, high-growth sectors of focus.

Project Description: Two-hundred Veterans will enroll in job training, all trainings leading to, at a minimum, one industry recognized certificate. Veterans are provided comprehensive assessment that incorporates military experience and transferrable skills. All participants are provided comprehensive case management, and wrap around supportive services and, as needed, mental health services. All participants will develop an Individualized Employment Plan that will provide guidance on how to obtain and retain employment, how to access LMI, and plan for career advancement, including how to access continuing career ladder training after placement to secure a sustained, lifelong career. Training includes 1) Pre-apprenticeship electrician training and placement (Construction Sector), 2) Entertainment behind the camera craft skills training and placement (Entertainment Sector), 3) Skilled nursing, emergency medical tech, paramedic, medical advocate and phlebotomist training and placement (Healthcare sector), 4) Manager trainee training and placement (Hospitality Sector), 5) Health IT Trainer, IT Network Security Analyst and IT Service Administrator (IT Sector) and, 6) Executive Protection Agent, Certified Security Officer, Correctional Officer (Security Sector). Entry level pay ranges for \$13 to \$35 an hour.

Expected Outcomes: Two-hundred veterans will be enrolled and participate in training that leads to an industry recognized certificate. Certificates are stackable, leading to sustained, career ladder advancement. It is planned that all participants will complete training, and obtain and retain placement, but at a minimum, 174 participants will complete training and 144 obtain high-wage, high-growth job placement. Entry level salaries are from \$13 to \$35 an hour.

North Central Counties Consortium
422 Century Park Drive, Suite B
Yuba City, CA 95991

Contact:

Ms. Nancy Crooks
(530) 822-7145

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: This multiple county project will focus on the Healthcare Practitioner/Support; Water Treatment; Protective Services; Installation/Maintenance/Repair; Production; Transportation/Material Moving industries. Jobs within these industries have strong growth in North Central Counties Consortium (NCCC) and skill sets will closely match military occupations.

Targeted Participants: This project will serve all veterans who have service-connected disabilities; campaign veterans; veterans with significant barriers; eligible spouses and recently-separated veterans. This project will target veterans who are classified as recently-separated as a priority. This group is most in need of identifying transferable skills, training in occupation areas and help with job attainment and retention.

Key Partners: The NCCC One-Stop Career Centers are currently in close partnership with EDD Veteran program staff. This partnership will be enhanced through the development of training plans for identified veterans. The One-Stop Career Centers will also increase partnership with each county Veteran Service Office to identify participants and identify services for the participants. Central Valley Homeless Veterans Program will work closely with the One-Stop Career Centers for housing needs and assistance for participants.

Project Description: The NCCC One-Stop Career Centers will work with partner agencies to identify eligible veterans for enrollment into the Workforce Investment Act program. Funding for this project will be used for the development of an individual employment plan which will include results from the assessment of transferable skills, assessment of supportive needs, labor market research and activities to attain goals. Training activities will be included in all plans and may include vocational training through an Individual Training Account, an on-the-job training opportunity, short term prevocational training and if needed through subsidized work experience. An intense case management partnership with participants, WIA staff and other agencies will assure completion of training activity, job attainment and retention.

Expected Outcomes: The NCCC Veterans' Employment and Training Program will follow all levels of performance planned in this proposal. Seventy-two participants will be served and placed in education/training; 58 (81%) will complete employment and attain a recognized certificate/diploma/degree; 44 (61%) will be placed in unsubsidized employment and of those, 36 (82%) will retain employment for 6-months.

North County Interfaith Council/Interfaith Community Services
550 West Washington Avenue
Escondido, CA 92025

Contact:

Mr. Bernard Gabriel
(760) 489-6380

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: The Veterans Employment Network Project (VENP) will focus on the following high demand industries: Health Care, Protection Services, Computer Technology Services and Customer Service Reps/Retail Sales.

Targeted Participants to be Served: The target participants will be those veterans affected by service connected disabilities, recently separated, campaign Veterans, Veterans with significant barriers as well as eligible family members of the Veterans. Our organization is staffed with clinical, medical and social work professional to aid in the needs of our veterans suffering from PTSD, TBI or depression. Recently separated veterans will make-up 75-80% of enrolled participants.

Key Partners: Partners include: The Veteran Affairs (VA)-Veterans Benefit Association, VA-Medical Health Services, EDD Veteran program staff, San Diego Workforce Partnership, LWIB, Veterans Centers and its satellite offices, One-Stop Career Centers, and the County's Veteran Service Offices. Local educational institutions in the North County of San Diego - San Diego State University, California State University of San Marcos, University of Southern California and Mira Costa College.

Project Description: The VENP is framed under the premise that the number of veterans and eligible family members will increase in the North County of San Diego and that this project will provide assistance to approximately 150 veterans of whom 75-80% are recently separated and/or disabled. With our partners and support agencies, we are postured to implement this project with staff that includes case managers, nurses, clinical therapist, social workers, resident managers and technicians. We are equipped with one stop program and services (housing, social services, employment center, and Veterans grant per diem and contract). The project will be delivered in phases including: outreach, case management, individual employment plan, job search assistance/placement, and follow-up services. Our partners will be an integral part of the project implementation.

Expected Outcomes: The VENP will serve and place 150 veterans and their eligible family members in education or training; 120 (80%) will complete training and attain an industry-recognized certificate; 105 (70%) will be placed in unsubsidized employment and of those, 86 (82%) will retain employment for 6-months.

Orange County Workforce Investment Board
1300 South Grand Avenue, Bldg. B, 3rd Floor
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Contact:

Mr. Andrew Munoz
(714) 480-6500

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus: The focus for the project will be in three industry clusters with the greatest demand and projected workforce growth. The region is expected to see the most job growth in Health Care (24%), Accommodation & Services (21%), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (19%). According to California Labor Market Information Department and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, over the next ten years Health Care will add 32,436 jobs; Accommodation & Services will grow by 30,107; and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services will grow by 21,278 jobs totaling a projection of 83,821 new jobs. These sectors were also selected due to the availability of 'horizontal' or 'cross-cutting' short-term; certification based training courses in Business Management, Project Management, and Information Technology.

Targeted Participants to be Served: Eighty participants will be served for this funding cycle. The majority of veterans to be served by the project (80%) will be men and women recently separated from active military duty within the last 48 months. In addition, the project will target other veterans with significant needs for training, employment assistance and support services, including those with disabilities and those with significant barriers to achieving and maintaining stable employment. The project will serve all of Orange County as well as veterans who are referred from Los Angeles County and the Camp Pendleton area in Northern San Diego County; and the Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network (PGWIN) LWIA which includes referrals from the cities of Long Beach, Torrance and Lomita.

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Key Partners: The Orange County Workforce Investment Board has successfully formed regional partnerships with the required partners as demonstrated in three ways: 1) Through partnerships with local WIBs Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network and the Santa Ana Workforce Investment Board; 2) Employment Development Department (EDD) Veterans' Services; and 3) numerous veteran serving organizations such as: Orange County Veterans Service Office, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Department of Veterans Affairs - VA Long Beach Health System, Coastline Community College Military Programs Center, Saddleback VETS Programs, Orange County Behavioral Health Services, Veterans First, AMVETS, Department of Defense - California Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and University of California, Irvine.

Project Description: The service delivery plan will achieve the goals and objectives of the project in a timely manner by leveraging three key elements: 1) the availability of a wide range of training options that address various interests, backgrounds and learning styles of participants and are linked to demand employment in the local labor market area; 2) an effective system to assess individual needs and conduct effective service/career planning; and 3) access to an array of support services most needed by veterans and their families including health/mental health services, counseling and assistance in navigating the maze of assistance programs for which veterans may qualify. The specific types of services and training that will be used to achieve the planned goals and objectives are as follows: Step 1 - Pre-Vocational Services, Supportive Services, Mental Health Services and Career Planning; Step 2 - Skills Training and, Step 3 - Employment Readiness, Placement and Follow-Up Services.

Expected Outcomes: Eighty participants will be placed in training and of those, 64 (80%) will complete training. Of these, a minimum of 47 (59%) will be placed in unsubsidized employment and at least 38 (81%) of these individuals will be retained in employment at six months. Average earnings for project participants will be \$14,400.

Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
925 Del Paso Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95815

Contact:

Mr. William Walker
(916) 263-4639

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus:

This initiative will focus on the Utility and Energy Sectors.

Targeted Participants to be Served:

The target population is newly-separated veterans among 18 to 34 year olds whose unemployment rate is the highest among all veterans at both a state and national level. Specific emphasis is on veterans having separated from the service in the past 48-months.

Key Partners:

The Sacramento Employment and Training Agency is the lead applicant and fiscal agent. American River College will provide training for 60 students for industry recognized certificates and degrees. The Sacramento Veterans Resource Center (SVRC) will provide Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder assessments for veterans and intensive case management as needed. Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) is the lead industry partner and sponsor of Power Pathway training certifications. Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is the local lead partner and sponsor of this program.

Project Description:

The project will create training and employment for 60 veterans with a focus on 45 recently separated veterans being steered toward jobs with area Utility Companies such as PG&E and SMUD along with other energy and utility-related firms. A 280- college-credited course will be offered at American River College, through which a Power Pathway certificate will be earned by those successfully completing the courses. The target jobs are Electric Power-Line Installer and Helpers. PG&E will interview and hire qualified program graduates for open positions. The SETA will work with SMUD and PG&E to develop a network of employers who will also hire these graduates. An additional 30 veterans will be offered more intensive case management by SVRC who specialize in services to homeless and disabled veterans.

Expected Outcomes:

The project will serve 60 veterans of which 50 (83%) will be placed into education or training; 43 (72%) will complete training; 40 (67%) will be placed in unsubsidized employment and 32 (80%) of those hired will retain employment for 6-months or more. The initiative will also create an entry into the utilities industry for veterans, offering opportunities for wage increases and significant career advancement.

Swords to Plowshares
1060 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Contact:

Mr. Dave Lopez
(415) 252-4788

Award: \$400,000

Industry of Focus:

The industry of focus for this project is Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (PSTS). Swords to Plowshares will offer industry-recognized certificate training programs. This project will train veterans in AutoCAD Designer, Bioprocess Instrumentation and Control, and Project Management Professional. Each of these specific training modules includes an industry-recognized certification.

Targeted Participants to be Served:

This project will target post-9/11 veterans with significant barriers to employment and will give high priority to recently separated veterans, Reservists, and CA National Guardsmen and women. All veterans served will face barriers to employment such as lack of civilian work skills and experience, length of time out of the labor force, current and/or past histories of physical or emotional disability, and/or lack of resources for engaging in job skills training for today's job market. Of the 120 targeted veterans, 66 (55%) will be recently separated veterans—veterans discharged from the military within 48-months of their program enrollment date—who served in Iraq/Afghanistan.

Key Partners:

Swords to Plowshares has partnered with the following PSTS industry employers in the development of training curriculums and job opportunities/placements: Solar City, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Genentech. Our Community College training partners at Laney College in Alameda County, San Jose City College in Santa Clara County, Diablo Valley College in Contra Costa County, and City College San Francisco will provide classroom and laboratory training instruction.

Project Description:

The Veterans PSTS Training Program will prepare 120 veterans for careers in the PSTS sector through industry-recognized 10-13 week certificate training programs developed through partnerships with PSTS employers and community colleges in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. This project has engaged industry employers in the program development and design, and provides job placement/career opportunities. Program participants will receive case management services, mental health services, classroom certificate training instruction, job readiness and pre-employment services, job search, job placement and retention services through Swords to Plowshares, Employment Development Department Veterans' Program Staff, community college partners, and other community partners including veteran service agencies.

Expected Outcomes:

This project will enroll 120 veterans over the 23-month grant period. All 120 (100%) participants will engage in a training activity through enrollment in a 10-13 week PSTS industry-recognized certificate training program. Ninety-six (80%) of these participants will successfully complete their training program; and of these 84 (88%) will obtain an industry-recognized certificate (i.e., Equipment and Control Validation for Calibration Technicians). All 84 (88%) of the participants who obtain an industry-recognized certificate will be engaged with job search and placement services. With a placement rate of 65 percent, 78 participants will obtain a training-related job placement in the PSTS sector with an average annual earnings rate of \$40,000. Through our follow-up and retention services, we will reach a 6-month retention benchmark for 63 (81%) of the participants who have secured employment.