

INSIDER 17

Keeping Area 17 WIB members informed

January 2012

Special Veteran Services Available at One-Stop

Earlier this month in the State of the Union address, President Obama talked about the thousands of troops that are coming home. The One-Stop System has a number of services in place to help those veterans as well as other men and women who have served their country return to the labor force.

The One-Stop system identifies veterans early in the registration process. Each individual who answers “yes” to the question, Are you a veteran? Has an icon placed on their OneFlow account so that staff and case managers can quickly and easily see the individual’s veteran status.

Translating Skills

A big hurdle for veterans is translating the skills and training received in the military into civilian terminology. The website www.careeronestop.org offers lots of information for veterans including a section on “military transition.” Also on that website is the “MyNext-Move” for Veterans. The CareerOneStop.org site is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. The site is accessible from the Mahoning, Columbiana and Trumbull County One-Stop site, www.OneStopOhio.org.

Other sites that help with translating military skills to civilian skills are two military sponsored sites: www.cool.navy.mil and www.cool.army.mil.

Veterans Representative

In addition to identifying veterans when they register, One-Stop Resource Room staff has been trained to identify veterans with barriers to employment who are then eligible for one-on-one services from the Veterans Representatives located at both One-Stops.

The Vet Rep conducts an in depth interview to specifically identify the barrier, identify a desired outcome and then develop steps to reach that desired outcome. The Vet Rep will also determine if the veteran is job ready including having an up-to-date and well structured resume and interviewing skills.

Once a veteran gets a job, the Vet Rep will follow up 180-days after employment to see if the veteran has any issues that the rep can help with.

A Vet Rep can also help the veteran start the process to acquire education with the GI bill and can help those in need access vocational rehabilitation through the Veterans’ Administration.

WIB members’ role in providing veteran services at the One-Stop is the spread the word about those services and to provide support and information that will enhance the offerings. Employers on the WIB are encouraged to hire veterans whenever possible.
