

National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center (NVTAC) Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) Community of Practice (CoP) Outreach Transition and Economic Development (OTED) Thursday, October 31, 2024, 3 – 4 p.m. ET

## **NVTAC Staff**

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#### **Guest Presenter**

Stacy Valenti, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

# **Key Points**

- Introduction
  - NVTAC staff introduced the topic and purpose of today's CoP: OTED. NVTAC also introduced the guest presenter, Stacy Valenti, VA OTED.
- Veteran and Spouse Transitional Assistance Grant Program (VSTAGP)
  - This new grant program, administered by the VA's OTED department, provides support for veterans and spouses in career advancement, covering all veterans regardless of discharge character.
  - The program's funding totals \$5 million, with awards up to \$500,000 per grant recipient. A matching component was included for grant recipients, doubling the program's total investment in its initial year.
  - Recipients include government agencies, nonprofits, and educational institutions. Thirteen organizations across the U.S. were selected in the first round from 65 applications, with services to begin by January 2, 2025.

### • Grant Eligibility and Goals

- Open to all veterans and spouses without restrictions based on service period, theater, or discharge type.
- Focuses on providing living wages rather than solely employment, recognizing the importance of economic stability for family units.
- Services under the grant include resume assistance, interview training, job recruitment, and other career development resources.
- Future of the Program
  - The grant is structured as a five-year program, with plans underway to make it a permanent offering.
  - There is potential for additional notices of funding in the coming years, with hopes to fill service gaps in underserved areas.



#### • Contact and Support Information

- The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans hotline number (877-424-3838) and <u>website</u> were shared for ongoing support and to answer any questions postpresentation.
- Future questions about the program can be directed to the provided contacts for further assistance.

# Resource

#### VA VSTAGP

# Conclusion

The VA's VSTAGP is a new program which offers transition services to former members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their spouses. These services include employment-based resources, resume assistance, interview training, job recruitment, and other tools to facilitate a successful transition. Members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are separated, retired, or discharged, as well as their spouses, will benefit from receiving the services provided. More information on this new grant program will be available in January 2025.

You can review the presentation recording here: NVTAC October 2024 CoP