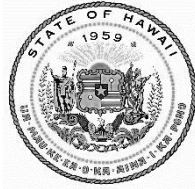


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**MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, February 16, 2023
1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Online via Zoom**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting the health and welfare of the community is a priority. The meeting was held remotely, with Board members and staff participating via an online meeting venue.

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Ken Loui, Committee Chair, Vice President, Pacific Marine
Trang Malone, Committee Vice-Chair, Workforce Initiatives Manager, CVS Health
Chentelle Rowland, Executive Director, Maui Workforce Development Board
Deb Uemura, Program Manager, Hawaii National Guard Work for Warriors Employment Program
Ann Greenlee, Director, US Department of Labor Veterans Employment and Training Service
Michael Quitania, Program Manager, Institute for Veterans and Military Families
Kealoha Daubert, Program Coordinator, Goodwill Hawaii
Kathy Andrews, Community Employment Coordinator, Health Care for Homeless Veterans
Erin Henderschedt, Editor/Writer, The Global Wordsmith
Kim Graves, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Dept. of Veteran's Affairs
Angela Condon, Strategic Partnerships Manager, Western Governors University
Guyland Patton, Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist, Oahu American Job Center
Ramon Ruiz, Local Veterans' Employment Representative, Oahu American Job Center

STAFF:

Jarret Yip, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Program Officer
Carol Kanayama, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Job Training Specialist
Katrina Ramos, DLIR Workforce Development Division
Daven Kawamura, DLIR Workforce Development Division

I. Call to Order.....Committee Chair Ken Loui
The Military and Veterans’ Affairs Committee meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by
Committee Chair Ken Loui.

Ken Loui introduced Erin Henderschedt who will be the new Chairperson for the Military Spouse
Subcommittee which has been dormant for a while. Erin has been a Military Spouse for ~30
years and has mostly done things based around her husband’s job. With her husband’s current
position, she is in a position to help other military spouses and children.

Committee Chair Loui gave some updates including the IBAS (Industrial Base and Sustainment)
program that evaluates the labor force here in Hawaii and how they can support the needs of
DOD. There have been several discussions with IBAS and Waipahu High School about their
welding program and a High School/Community college welding competition at HCC or at the
shipyard. Hoping to have participation in the 10-30 range for the welding program and have it
act as a career fair also, rolling out around April 14th or 21st.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. October 13, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Committee Chair Loui requested a motion to approve the minutes for the October 13, 2022,
meeting. Ann Greenlee moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2022, meeting. Deb
Uemura seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion to approve
the minutes was approved unanimously.

III. Updates from October 13, 2022, to February 16, 2023

A. Workforce Development Division

Carol Kanayama shared updates for Workforce Development Division. These updates can be
found at the link below:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/05/WDD-Report-for-02.16.23-MVAC-meeting.docx>

On April 11th a federal job fair is being planned through Ann Greenlee which will be the first
time focusing on federal agencies at the Keehi Lagoon Memorial Center. There will be no cost
for employers to attend, information will be sent out at a later date.

B. Presentation on the New National Guard Primary Preventative Program

Debby Uemura let the committee know about a job fair that happened on February 7th which was
a specific job fair to stand up the Integrated Primary Prevention program. It’s a new mandated
program for all 54 states and territories with each offering similar services.

They will be OPM designated federal positions for the Social Sciences category looking for

civilians with a Human Services background area. This program will be on the prevention side so they will be the people working with primary prevention programs such as self-harm, substance abuse, family violence being on the awareness and prevention side of the house, not on the response side of the house. Based on the number of air and national guard members, Hawaii is a medium state, and will need to have nine positions.

IV. Veterans Administration Employment Program

A presentation by Kathy Andrews on the talking points about the Veterans Administration Employment Program can be found at the following link:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/05/HI-DOL-talking-points-Feb-2023-MVAC-committee.pdf>

A. Employment and Education Trends among Homeless Veterans

Kathy Andrews let the committee know that the VA identifies homelessness as someone in the state of being unhoused or unsheltered; lacking stable, safe, and adequate housing. Some trends that impact employment are that veterans often believe that all veterans are entitled to all VA benefits and that they seek out similar employment opportunities to what they did in the military, which can be a barrier.

B. Veteran Administration Employment Support (Long Term vs Short Term)

Some short-term employment services include Homeless Veteran Community Employment Services (HVCES), Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) and several different programs including transitional work and supporting the work programs, and this is to assist Veterans with job barriers.

Long-term Employment supports includes Vocational Readiness & Employment (VR&E) which have 5 different tracks to assist veterans with service connected disabilities. Four of the programs work on employment and the fifth program works on independent living.

Ken asked what exactly the best way is to reach her organization and put them in contact. Kathy makes cheat sheets or a link sheet with clickable links for all the resources. It can be found at the following link:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/05/Re-Entering-the-Workforce-Resource-List-Nov-2022-MVAC-committee.pdf>

V. Announcements and Public Testimony (if any)

There were no announcements or public testimony.

VI. Next Meeting

The Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee will have their next meeting on April 20, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Committee Chair Loui adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.