Is Your Vision Owning Your Own Business?

Office of Veterans Business Development – Military Spouse Resources

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Introduction

Stan Kurtz

Stan Kurtz is a retired U.S. Navy veteran serving as Director of Policy and Engagement for the SBA’s Office of Veterans Business Development. He recently served as the Director of the Veterans Business Outreach Center Program.

Jilan Hall-Johnson

Jilan Hall-Johnson is the owner of the Sassy Biscuit Company, located in Billings, MT. She is a military spouse who used SBA resources to get her café up and running. Based on the success of her café, she is now planning to open another Sassy Biscuit in Dover, New Hampshire.
SERVING THE NEXT GREAT GENERATION

Veteran-owned businesses are a pillar of the U.S. Economy.

• **Vision:** Create America’s next great generation of veteran small business owners

• **Mission:** Empower veterans, transitioning service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses with the tools to start, grow, expand, or recover their business through:
  • Counseling, training, and education
  • Access to capital
  • Contracting opportunities
  • Disaster assistance
**SBA OVBD MISSION PRIORITIES**

**Counseling & Training**
- Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOC)
- Boots to Business (B2B) and Boots to Business Reboot (B2BR)
- Women Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program (WVETP)
- Service-Disabled Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program (SDVETP)
- Veteran Federal Procurement Entrepreneurship Training Program (VFPETP)
- SBA District Offices / Veteran Business Development Officers

**Access to Capital**
- Lender Match

**Access to Contracting and Market Opportunities**
- 3% SDVOSB federal goal achieved yearly since 2012
- 4.27% achieved in 2018

**Disaster Assistance**
- Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan (MREIDL)
Serving Military Spouses

SBA’s Office of Veterans Business Development (OVBD) empowers military spouse entrepreneurs and business owners by providing the same counseling and training, access to capital, and disaster assistance that are provided to service members and veterans. SBA also assists with building capacity for those who want to compete in the federal contracting landscape.

Training
- Boots to Business
- Boots to Business Reboot
- Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-WISE)
- Lift Fund (San Antonio)
- Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans’ Families
- Dog Tag, Inc.

Counseling
- SBA District Offices
- Veterans Business Outreach Centers
- Women’s Business Centers
- Small Business Development Centers
- SCORE
Serving Military Spouses

SBA can assist military spouses with preparation for opportunities in federal procurement, cultivating connections with commercials supply chains, and disaster relief assistance.

Contracting
- Women-Owned Small Business Set-aside
- HUBZone Businesses
- Small Disadvantaged Businesses

For more information, visit sba.gov/milspouse
PARTNERS AND RESOURCES

- Located throughout the nation, the SBA veteran ecosystem is comprised of grantees, resource partners, interagency organizations, and more.

- Additionally, there are **68 SBA District Offices** across the U.S.
22 centers nationwide, full resource partners
Provides SBA resource navigation and referrals
Growth focused on high vet population and installation density areas
Transition assistance core mission
Integration and referral mindset
More information can be found at WWW.SBA.GOV/VBOC
BOOTS TO BUSINESS AND VBOCS

• VBOCs are the lead SBA resource partner in regard to the Boots to Business Program.

• VBOCs work with the SBA District Offices and Transition Service Managers at military installations to ensure that Boots to Business classes are conducted in accordance with the guidelines of the Transition Assistance Program’s (TAP) Entrepreneurship Track.

• As of Aug 2019, over 100,000 service members and their spouses have taken a B2B or Reboot course.

In FY19, over 787 Boots to Business and Reboot classes were held at military installations within the United States.
The entrepreneurial training program offered by SBA on military installations around the world as a training track of the Department of Defense’s Transition Assistance Program (TAP).

- SBAVETS.FORCE.COM

Extends the entrepreneurship training offered in TAP to veterans of all eras, members of the Reserve and National Guard, and military spouses in their communities.

- SBAVETS.FORCE.COM
WOMEN VETERAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (WVETP)

- Entrepreneurial training for women veterans and military spouses as they start or grow a business.

- WVETP consists of two institution grantees:
  - Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-WISE) – Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University
    - FY16-FY19: 1,239 participants served
  - Lift Fund – San Antonio Lift Fund
    - FY16-FY19: 546 participants served

Total WVETP participants served (FY16-FY19): 1,839
Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-WISE) is a premier training program in entrepreneurship and small business management operated by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University.

V-WISE helps women veterans and female military spouses/partners find their passion and learn the business savvy skills necessary to turn an idea or start-up into a growing venture.

The three-phases of the program include a 15-day online course (Phase I), 3-day entrepreneurship training event (Phase II), and ongoing mentorship, training and support opportunities for graduates launching or growing their business (Phase III).
LiftFund (San Antonio) provides business lending, business and financial education, and resources to women veterans and military spouses.

LiftFund’s Women Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program services communities throughout Texas in El Paso, Houston, San Antonio, Dallas-Fort Wroth, and Corpus Christi.

The program offers small business workshops and online training, discounted interest rates for veterans and spouses, and business loans ranging from $500-500K.
Dog Tag, Inc. Fellowship Program

• The Dog Tag Inc. Fellowship program empowers veterans with service-connected disabilities, military spouses, and caregivers to discover personal and professional fulfillment in the civilian

• Five-month program located in Washington, D.C.

• Program components
  • Academic foundation through Georgetown University
  • Experiential learning
  • Professional workshops and learning labs
  • Wellness

Since program inception in 2014, 31% of program participants have classified themselves as military spouses (32 of the 103 enrolled).
POLICY FORMULATION & OUTREACH

Advisory Committee on Veteran Business Affairs
- Membership: SDVOSBs, VOSBs, Veteran Service Organizations (VSO)

Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development
- Membership: SBA, VA, DoL, Dept. of Treasury, OMB, GSA, DoD, and four VSOs

MILITARY SPOUSE OUTREACH
- US Chamber of Commerce Hiring Our Heroes military spouse events
- Military Spouse Employment Summits
- DoD Virtual Military Spouse Symposium
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) SUPPORT

• **Paycheck Protection Program**: The Paycheck Protection Program prioritizes millions of Americans employed by small businesses by authorizing up to $349 billion towards job retention and certain other expenses.

• **Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Loan Advance**: In response to COVID-19, small business owners in all U.S. states, Washington D.C., and territories are eligible to apply for an Economic Disaster Loan advance of up to $10,000.

To apply for a COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan, visit: [covid19relief.sba.gov](covid19relief.sba.gov)

For more information, visit: [sba.gov/coronavirus](sba.gov/coronavirus)
Contact Information

(202) 205-6773

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