

**National Guard Employment Program  
May 13-14th, 2011 – North Carolina Employment Skills Workshop and Job Fair**



Representatives from the National Guard Employment Network Program - (from left to right) General George Goldsmith (Ret.); Kelly Loring, National Guard Bureau Family Program Branch Analyst; Stacy Bayton, Executive Director MSCCN; David Ponder, North Carolina Employment Readiness Specialist.

The MSCCN partnered with the National Guard Bureau and DirectEmployers Association to create the National Guard Employment Program. This program officially launched in North Carolina on Friday, May 13, 2011, in Asheville for members of the National Guard and their spouses who serve in western North Carolina. The event was held at the Asheville National Guard Armory from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m..

The launch included two days of events to include a full day of training workshops to help National Guardsmen and their spouses prepare for their job search, followed by a Veteran's and Military Job Fair on Saturday, May 14, 2011, supported by employers from the local area. The workshops were led by MSCCN Executive Director, Stacy Bayton, on a variety of job readiness topics including how to prepare a targeted resume, interview skills, networking, live resume assessments, and job fair tips.

Unlike active duty military personnel the majority of National Guardsmen do not hold full-time military jobs and must seek employment in the civilian sector. Over 20% of North Carolina National Guard members and reservists are currently unemployed. Many of them return from overseas or combat deployments to find their job is gone. This program provides job readiness and placement assistance that helps increase job opportunities for both the National Guardsmen/Reservist and their spouses, and in turn increase the quality of life for our military families throughout the nation.