



Event Report:

International Military Spouse Network Meeting

Eglin Air Force Base, FL

June 17, 2010



On Thursday, June 17, 2010 MSCCN was invited to present to the International Military Spouse Network, an organization that helps foreign born military spouses and American military spouses with employment and cultural needs. The monthly meetings are coordinated by the Eglin Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Stacy Bayton, MSCCN Outreach Coordinator, kicked off the meeting with an overview of the benefits and services MSCCN provides to the military community. The two hour workshop consisted of 12 military spouses interested in learning how various agencies collaborate to provide employment opportunities. The group participated in a two hour roundtable discussion on the employment challenges faced by military spouses, and

how the Eglin Airman and Family Readiness Center, Jobs Plus, and MSCCN could better meet individual needs.

The event presenters included: Lisa Splinter from the Eglin Airman and Family Readiness Center, Stacy Bayton from the MSCCN, and Tamara Kiss from Jobs Plus, the International Military Spouse Network's co-founders, and military spouses.

After the meeting, information was exchanged and participants had an opportunity to talk with the organizations privately. Topics addressed with candidates included being proactive in job search, geographic challenges, language barriers, and remaining positive.

During the meeting participants received the MSCCN Applicant flyer.

The objective of the meeting was to inform military spouses currently job searching or designing a career plan through Airman and Family Readiness of services that MSCCN provides. The goal was to show attendees how the different organizations work together to help military spouses and encourage participants to visit the MSCCN website, upload their resumes, and contact MSCCN for information or service.

After the meeting, MSCCN conducted a follow-up to track the success of participants. Six of the spouses uploaded their resumes. One spouse is currently interviewing with an employer referred by MSCCN. Four of the remaining five spouses are actively applying for positions and felt encouraged by the communication MSCCN sent out and the job blasts the candidates received. All of the participants found the information provided in the workshop helpful and felt optimistic about their employment prospects.