



**MSCCN MilSpouse Job Club – Tampa Region
July Meeting
MacDill AFB, Airman and Family Readiness Center
July 22, 2010
Event Report**

Attendees: Emily Burton and Susan Larsen (MSCCN Volunteer)



(MSCCN MilSpouse Job Club Participants from left to right: Abby Pichardo, Juan Sanchez, Ernilyn Bosco, Donna Buckley)

The July meeting of the MSCCN MilSpouse Job Club – Tampa Region was hosted by the MacDill AFB Airman and Family Readiness Center (AFRC). Angie Fields, Community Readiness Consultant, met with the group to discuss the services and classes provided by the AFRC and also discussed troubleshooting resumes and writing cover letters. We welcomed three new job club participants who had learned about MSCCN at the Tampa Bay Job and Career Fair presented by the St. Petersburg Times earlier in the week. Those in attendance were Emily Burton (MSCCN Outreach Coordinator), Susan Larsen (MSCCN Volunteer), Donna Buckley, Ernilyn Bosco, Abby Pichardo, and Juan Sanchez.

Angie jumped straight in discussing the different services that the AFRC provides that are geared to assist with the employment process. As a group we reviewed

the calendar and discussed that many of the classes that are held on the base are also conducted at the Brandon Family Resource Center located in Brandon, FL where many of the military families reside. She also mentioned that they are working very hard to speak with recruiters in the area letting them know that they can be of assistance for filling job vacancies. Once we started talking about Military Spouse Preference, many questions came up which quickly turned the meeting into an informal Q&A session.

Mentioning that there are classes on resumes, Angie then began the conversation discussing various points about resumes. For example, she demonstrated a very visual point by folding a piece of paper in half and then folding it in half once more; explaining that at the very least if you don't have the proper information in that first top half of your resume recruiters are very likely to move on to the next one even though further down the page you might list exactly what they are looking for. With time running short, Angie did her best to take a look at the resumes of each participant commenting on her first impressions, and noting that they can set up individual appointments to go over their resumes in more depth. Running out of time, we were only able to briefly touch on cover letters and their importance, but Angie quickly reassured the group that she could also assist them with this document as well.

Wrapping up the meeting, Angie and I made our final comments to the participants. Angie mentioned that everyone should feel free to contact her with questions and to make sure that they check the AFRC out on Facebook. Finally, the local events calendar with a variety of networking and training opportunities in the Tampa Bay area was disbursed. We closed the meeting with a big thank you to Angie Fields for taking the time to cover this information with the group.

Overall, this was a great meeting for the job club participants with the advantage of holding the meeting in a place where they can obtain many valuable resources and speak directly with the contact person who can assist them. Unfortunately, we were unable to fully discuss writing cover letters, but some of the participants commented that they would feel comfortable coming back to the Airman and Family Readiness Center for more information.