



Employment Workshop

“How to Navigate your Way through Employment as a Military Spouse”

NAS Whiting Field, FL – April 21, 2010
Event Report

Attendee: Stacy Bayton

On Wednesday, April 21, 2010 the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network (MSCCN) and NAS Whiting Field Fleet and Family Support Center hosted an employment workshop titled “Navigate Your Way through Employment as a Military Spouse”. The event was held at the NAS Whiting Field Atrium from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM for military spouses living within Santa Rosa County, FL. Nine spouses were in attendance.

Objectives of the workshop were to share with military spouses how to balance their career with that of their military spouse and how to ensure career success through preparation and dedication to the total “mission” in their life.

The workshop covered topics such as:

1. How to balance your career with that of your service members'. Military spouses are portable meaning we travel almost everywhere our service members travel. It can be a difficult path to have a career while your service member is on active or even reserve duty, but there are things that spouses can do so that their career plans are not put on hold. Secondary goal was to show how this and topic #2 increase retention and family readiness during the uncertainty that military life brings.
2. How to create a portable career – what a portable career is, and how to create a career plan around this concept.
3. Job Readiness and Placement – what this means in today’s society to include how to be job ready, and how to be proactive in your job search.
4. Education – career progression and how education plays a role in this.
5. Services and benefits available to military spouses and veterans.

To supplement the information shared during the workshop, MSCCN invited two outside agencies to speak, Workforce Escarosa and Navy College. Both agencies were invited to address the attendees during the portion of the workshop that addressed expanding your education and how this progression leads to promotions of our careers. Shaquanna Wilson from Workforce Escarosa presented the Displaced Workers Fund that can be used by military spouses to fund educational expenses for those in a program of study. Renay Riley from Navy

College presented information on the types of programs that are supported by this fund and addressed the group during the education progression portion of the workshop.

Navy College brought with them a consortium of education representatives from the University of Phoenix, University of Troy, Pensacola Junior College, and Bismarck State College who set up informational education centers in an adjoining room for attendees to visit during break and lunch.

At the end of the event, Fleet and Family representatives addressed the group and summarized the services that they assist with at the center. Attendees were encouraged to follow-up after the workshop with appointments at Fleet and Family in regards to employment readiness and with MSCCN in regards to employment placement.



Participants at the April 21 NAS Whiting Field Event



