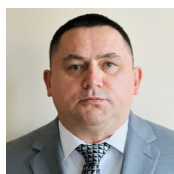


## CAREER SERVICES

### ONWARD TO OPPORTUNITY (O2O)

#### 2,976 ENROLLED

- 1,328 veterans and 437 military spouses
- 1,036 active duty and 175 reserve
- **Ages:** Under 29 years old - 562 | 30-49 - 2,075 | 55+ - 333
- **Top certifications:** Project Management, Information Security, Human Resources, Cyber Security and Six Sigma
- **New employer partner:** [VetJobs](#) joined as an operational partner to provide resume support, interview prep, and employment connections to all IVMF program participants and alumni.
- **Major milestone hit this spring:** [O2O celebrates serving 100,000 veterans, servicemembers, and military families](#)



#### RUSLAN S.

O2O Hampton Roads Program Graduate

"None of this would have been possible without the wonderful O2O Skillbridge program. You are the driving engine behind all of it."

### VETERANS PROGRAM FOR POLITICS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (VPPCE)

#### 240 UNIQUE GRADUATES SINCE 2019

- [Applications are open April 1- May 30](#) for next cohort starting July 2025 for the Ideation phase, and September 2025 for the Campaign Planning phase

## RESEARCH & EVALUATION

- Total number of downloads from the [digital library](#) this quarter: 5,904
- 26 [research publications](#) and 65 in-person/virtual engagements
- The Evaluation team worked with the Medal of Honor Foundation to document and describe their Theory of Change and to create an evaluation plan and attended the annual [Face the Fight Coalition](#) meeting March 5-6, 2025.
- According to 2024 data, veterans are 5.5x more likely than non-veterans to work in the federal government. Given the current climate, we will be monitoring the unemployment situation closely. Check out the latest [veteran employment report](#).

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS

### 6 UNIQUE PROGRAMS RUNNING THIS QUARTER

#### 573 ENROLLED

- **Six programs include:** Acceleration Challenge, Bunker Labs Breaking Barriers in Entrepreneurship (BBiE), Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans, STRIVE, Veteran EDGE, Boots to Business
- 368 veterans and 63 military spouses
- 69 national guard/reserve
- **Ages:** Under 29 years old - 14 | 30-49 - 330 | 55+ - 177
- **Veteran EDGE** - 354 record breaking attendance! [Read more.](#)
  - 94% of Veteran EDGE survey participants reported making 3 or more new connections that they felt helped their growth as an entrepreneur
- **Average revenue of Veteran EDGE participants:** \$4,139,038
- **Top Industries represented by EDGE participants:** Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, IT, Construction, Education, Wholesale Trade
- **Average revenue of CEOcircle cohort:** \$20,138,889

"The BBiE program was a game-changer for me as a business owner. This program not only deepened my entrepreneurial knowledge but also connected me with a powerful network of like-minded women. I highly recommend it to any woman looking to build and scale a successful business!"

- MONIQUE R., BBiE Program Graduate

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **Community of Practice (CoP):** In March, the community services team hosted its annual [CoP gathering in Washington, D.C.](#), bringing together leaders from 25+ VSOs across 15 states and D.C. The event featured expert-led learning on coordinated care from the IVMF applied research team along with others and a Capitol Hill reception with congressional staff, including remarks from Congressman Brandon Williams (NY-22).
- **SyracuseServes:** has served over 600 unique individuals to date by coordinating over 780 requests for assistance. Legal assistance (28%), benefits navigation (20%), and housing and shelter (17%) are the network's top three service types by interaction all time.

## POLICY

- On February 26, Ray Toenniessen testified before a joint session of the Veterans Affairs Committees to share the IVMF's legislative focus areas for 2025. Available to [read](#) and [view](#).
- On March 25, Barb Carson testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity at a hearing entitled, "Mission Incomplete: Strengthening the TAP Program to Ensure a Smoother Transition to Civilian Life for Tomorrow's Veterans." Available to [read](#) and [view](#).

## AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

### 60 AMBASSADORS REPRESENTING 30 COMMUNITIES FOR 2025



- Ambassadors are volunteers focused on building local entrepreneurial ecosystems for the military-connected community.
- **Seven Ambassadors presented the Ambassador Impact Awards during EDGE conference** for coordinating VetsFest 2024 in Atlanta, launching a VBOC in Pennsylvania, developing a national ETA mastermind group for veteran entrepreneurs through acquisition pathways, and launching a veteran pitch competition at eMerge Americas.

### AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT



#### HENRY BANH

Houston Ambassador, US Army Veteran

*"I understand that many veterans struggle with the transition to civilian life, and entrepreneurship can be a powerful way to regain purpose, stability, and success. By supporting veteran entrepreneurs, I'm continuing to serve your community—just in a different capacity."*

### FEATURED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS:

- [The Ins and Outs of Procurement Contracting: Opportunities and Challenges for Military-Affiliated Entrepreneurs](#)
- [The Skills-Based Business Case for Hiring Veterans](#)
- [2024 Military Family Lifestyle Survey \(MFLS\) Comprehensive Report](#)
- [The State of Veteran Entrepreneurship keynote at Veteran EDGE conference](#)

## TOP CONTENT & NEWS

- **Most read IVMF content:**
  - [Deals & Discounts for Veterans](#)
  - [2025 Top Conferences & Pitch Competitions for Veterans](#)
  - [2025 Ambassador Cohort Welcome](#)
- **IVMF Veteran Entrepreneur Spotlight:** [Anthony Crosby](#)
- **Best attended IVMF webinar:** [Discover the Power of Community and Growth with the Veterans Program for Politics and Civic Engagement \(VPPCE\)](#)
- **AJC Open Letter/Op-ed:** [President Trump, our veterans make America great](#)
- **Forbes article about O2O:** [From Service To Success: Empowering Veterans' Career Transitions](#)

READ MORE  
ON OUR BLOG



## DEVELOPMENT

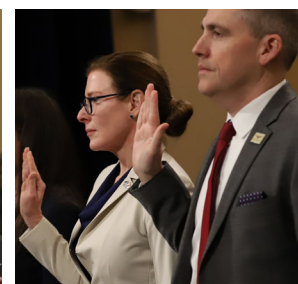
### IVMF FUNDER SPOTLIGHT



- IVMF's decade-long partnership with USAA has provided over \$10 million in funding to support career training and entrepreneurship for more than 100,000 military-connected individuals through programs like Onward to Opportunity and V-WISE.
- In 2024, IVMF also partnered with USAA on Face the Fight, developing a new analytics and reporting system to help grantees strengthen veteran suicide prevention efforts.



Ray Toenniessen testified before joint session of the VA Committees on February 26.



Barb Carson testified before the House VA Subcommittee on March 25.