

CAREER SERVICES

ONWARD TO OPPORTUNITY (O2O)

3,097 ENROLLED (8.4% increase from previous quarter)

- 1,519 veterans and 483 military spouses
- 949 active duty and 205 National Guard/Reserve
- **Ages:** Under 29 years old (602) | 30-49 (2,104) | 50+ (391)
- **Top certifications:** PMP®, IT, Google Cybersecurity, HR, Six Sigma

O2O PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

- In partnership with Syracuse University's Office of Veteran and Military Affairs, IVMF hosted its inaugural Military Community Job Fair. The event generated strong engagement, with several interactions leading to employment opportunities. Top interests included project management, government, and IT roles, reflecting a diverse and skilled talent pool while strengthening local partnerships and brand visibility.



JESTUN DAVIA, U.S. Navy (Ret), E-7,
O2O Jacksonville PMP Candidate

"Overall, Onward to Opportunity was one of the most informative and impactful courses I have taken to date. I left with a renewed sense of confidence, clarity, determination, and purpose as I pursue my next career opportunities."

VETERANS PROGRAM FOR POLITICS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (VPPCE)

78 ENROLLED in Campaign Planning & Ideation programs

- 56 veterans and 11 military spouses
- 7 active duty and 8 National Guard
- 29 Democrat, 25 Republican, 24 other



"My experience at VPPCE was invaluable in preparing me for a future in politics as an interested veteran. The instructors are experts in their fields and they charismatically created an engaging and dynamic learning environment with guest lecturers providing real-world insights that are essential for anyone considering public office."

- EVAN S. BEACHLER
Campaign Planning 2024

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS

6 UNIQUE PROGRAMS RUNNING 25 COHORTS

481 ENROLLED ENTREPRENEURS

Six programs include: CEOcircle, EBV, EBV-A, EBV-WWP, Military Founders Lab, STRIVE

- 309 veterans and 79 military spouses
- 13 active duty and 17 National Guard/Reserve
- **Ages:** Under 29 years old (22) | 30-49 (308) | 50+ (151)
- **Boots to Business** trained 804 participants in 39 workshops worldwide
- **Military-connected Entrepreneur Events**
 - **Mission to Marketplace** in San Diego - 127 registrations
 - Veterans in Residence, Breaking Barriers in Entrepreneurship, Bunker Build Up consolidated into **Military Founders Lab** for a more streamlined user experience.
 - IVMF hosted the **USAA Acceleration Challenge** at the Military Influencer Conference where nine skilled-trades entrepreneurs received \$6,500 each and mentorship from IVMF Ambassadors. Support from Home Depot, Holland & Knight, and USAA.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

- The **Community Services** team hosted its 4th Annual Suicide Prevention Education Talk and Mental Health Summit in partnership with the Syracuse VA Medical Center. Over 100 service providers, veterans, and advocates attended the talk by the suicide prevention training program, One Degree of Separation. The event also featured a community resource fair.
- This quarter **SyracuseServes** has coordinated 48 requests on behalf of 28 unique clients and participated in a dozen engagements with local service providers.

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

- Total number of downloads from the [digital library](#) this quarter: 5,710
- 35 [research publications](#) and 44 in-person/virtual engagements
- South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs has partnered with the IVMF to estimate veterans' needs across the state and find those veterans who can most take advantage of SC DVA resources.
- IVMF was selected to lead the evaluation of the Presidential Leadership Scholars Program, a bipartisan initiative co-created by the George W. Bush, William J. Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Centers to develop and connect principled, results-driven leaders.

POLICY

- IVMF endorsed the [End Transcript Withholding for Veterans Act](#), legislation introduced by Representative John Mannion (NY-22) from IVMF's home district.
- IVMF and Syracuse University met with State Assembly Members Pamela Hunter and Jacob Ashby to explore collaborative opportunities to strengthen veteran support and services across New York State.
- Following last quarter's military-to-civilian transition roundtable in Washington, DC, IVMF convened working groups on Definitions and Outcomes, Customization and Connections, and Government Relations to advance recommendations for future research, policy, and practice.

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

52 AMBASSADORS REPRESENTING 30 COMMUNITIES

- 77% veteran, 15% military spouse, 8% National Guard/Reserves
- Ambassadors and Regional Leads contributed to 110+ events nationwide from July - September, expanding outreach through networking, thought leadership, capital access and mentorship.

AMBASSADOR HIGHLIGHTS

- This summer, IVMF hosted its second **Ambassador Fly-In** at the NVRC, convening more than 40 Ambassadors from across the country. The event celebrated the nationwide impact of their work, featuring over 35 Ecosystem Leadership Projects that showcased innovative community partnerships and veteran support initiatives.
- At the **Military Influencer Conference**, seven IVMF Ambassadors were recognized as thought leaders and invited to take the stage as speakers.
- As part of the Southwest Region's Ecosystem Leadership Project, Atlanta hosted its second annual **VETSfest**, bringing together more than 500 military-connected attendees for a day of networking, collaboration, and inspiration.

FEATURED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS:

- [Advancing and Strengthening the Veteran Entrepreneur Ecosystem](#) (IVMF, 2025): Outlines a modular framework for communities to enhance veteran entrepreneurship. Drawing from Military Entrepreneurship Forum roundtables and NSMAE insights, the brief identifies five key components—Connectivity, Navigation, Support, Capital Readiness, and Flexibility—with actionable recommendations for each.
- [Reimagining Military Spouse Employment](#) (IVMF, 2025): New research highlights systemic barriers and opportunities to improve career mobility for military spouses, emphasizing long-term solutions that create more portable, flexible, and sustainable career pathways.
- [Veteran Access to Multiple Forms of Health Care Coverage](#) (RAND Epstein Institute, Aug 2025): This policy brief examines how veterans using VA health care often maintain additional coverage such as Medicare Advantage, exploring the implications for access, coordination, and costs. Key takeaway: enhancing data sharing and payment alignment across systems can reduce waste while preserving veteran choice.
- [Thriving Beyond Service](#) (Milken Institute, Aug 2025): This funders' guide maps the veteran support ecosystem across four focus areas—ecosystem reform, health and well-being, economic opportunity, and community connection. It emphasizes that the greatest philanthropic impact lies in funding coordination, shared standards, and scalable models. IVMF is recognized alongside Penn, Duke VTRL, and RAND as a leading research institution in the field.

TOP CONTENT & NEWS

- **Most read IVMF content:**
 - [Top Conferences & Pitch Competitions](#)
 - [How to Get your Business VOSB or SDVOSB Certified](#)
- **Beyond the Frontline podcast episode with Megan Andros from The Heinz Endowment:** [Navigating Transition: Philanthropy & the Veteran Journey](#)
- [Seven IVMF alumni selected for Cuse50 Award](#)
- **Best Attended VetNet Webinar:**
 - [How to Start Selling on Amazon Stores](#)

VetNet Webinar

AUG. 12
1 P.M. ET

How to Start Selling on
amazon

IVMF FUNDER SPOTLIGHT

THE PEDERSEN FOUNDATION

SIERRA7
TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS



- IVMF is honored to partner with the **Pedersen Foundation** to strengthen support for the intelligence community and expand access to Cyber and AI career pathways, leveraging our research and career training expertise to assess and enhance national and regional resources.
- In Q1, IVMF received more than \$8 million in philanthropic investment from 83 donors in support of our mission. We're grateful for the continued generosity of our partners and extend a warm welcome to new supporters—the **Pedersen Foundation**, **Sierra 7**, and the **John & Tami Marick Foundation**.