



NEWS RELEASE

Workforce Development Board

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San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board Offers Financial Counseling for Veterans



SAN BERNARDINO, CA (March 19, 2015) — The County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board has announced it will offer financial counseling to military veterans and their spouses who are transitioning into civilian life.

The program, which originated at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, will fund a full-time financial counselor to serve at the America's Job Center of California in Rancho Cucamonga.

The local office was selected as one of only 40 locations in the nation to offer the service.

This program addresses challenges some veterans experience when their military service has ended. Miguel McQueen, Deputy Director of Business Services and Operations with the County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board said, "We are proud to participate in this program as it allows us to expand the services we offer to veterans and their families."

Over the last year, the need for tailored services for Veterans has gathered national attention focusing on the need to improve medical care at Veterans Administration hospitals and helping Veterans transition back into the workforce. In his State of the Union address last month, President Obama reminded businesses that "if you want to get the job done and done right, hire a vet."

Employment recruitment assistance and skills training make up a large part of the services that the Workforce Investment Board provides to veterans, and this new financial counseling service will be added to help those in transition.

"In recent years, funding cuts have eliminated specific workforce programs for veterans," said Sandy Harmsen, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board. "That situation is beginning to change, amid a growing recognition of the importance of additional support for veterans."

"We know that veterans can benefit from specialized services targeted to their needs," County Board of Supervisors Chairman James Ramos said. "This program will allow the Workforce Investment Board to serve our large population of military veterans by providing financial expertise to assist them on their path to financial independence."