



KWIB Veterans and Transitioning Servicemembers (VATS) Sub-committee Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at 11 a.m. ET

Zoom - <https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/BCFaXDJHysnzM6aSRC9eekZMsa6WENISSV9kTfC5XOvj>

Passcode: zok9q1A\$

CALL TO ORDER 11:01 A.M. ET

Sub-Committee Members Present:

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Dr. Dallas Kratzer – Co-Chair | x | Buddy Hoskinson | |
| R. Jason Hutchinson – Co-Chair | x | Jennifer Miller for Bryan Combs | |
| Rusty Mardis | x | Joe Brummett | |
| Sheila Clark | | Josh Williams | |
| Donietta Hawkey | x | Dr. Kris Williams | |
| Brian Selmeski | | Linda Larson | |
| D’Neika Lopez | | Mike Richie | |
| AJ Combs | | Major Stephen Martin | |
| Zach Morgan | x | Matthew Boone SSG | x |
| Karen McFadyen | | Lala Williams | |
| Kirk Shepherd | | William Seehorn | |
| Allen Whitney | | Patricia Dawn (Pattie) | |
| BG Bullard | | Representative Bill Wesley | |
| Gwen Hacker | | Derek Poor | |
| Kelly Loring | | Judith 'April Brown | |
| Jon Sowards | | Amanda Ellis | |
| Dwayne Edwards | | Natalie Gibson | |
| Rebecca Wood | | Sherry Johnson | x |
| James McClanahan | | James Davis | x |
| Sara Jagers | x | Stefanie Ebbens Kingsley | x |

*Others in attendance: Kelly Jordan (Speaker), Amanda Scott (Speaker), Joe Roberts (Speaker), Charles Almeida (VHA-VR), Hillary Writt – KDLA, Steve Bullard (KY-KCMA), Jarrod Taylor (JCPS), Jesse Liebau (VA CWT Supported Employment), Betty Whittaker (RETAIN OVR), and Taylor Seehorn (DOL-VETS).

WELCOME AND STATE OF PURPOSE

Dallas Kratzer, VATS co-chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and went over the agenda and thanked everybody for being in attendance. Jason Hutcherson introduced Mr. James Davis, he is with the [Jobs for Veterans State Grant](#) program here in Kentucky and our new assistant program coordinator. He works with the Career Development Office in Education Cabinet, so welcome James and thanks for joining our sub-committee.

Dallas said as a committee, we are trying to present more and better ideas to you all, we have a working group that get together once a month to talk about issues and we hope to bring more things to the subcommittee to share with you all to better engage our employers and our service members in this work of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB). One of the things we're also doing is to have a little bit of a structure to our meeting order, so we'll try to present something new to you, have an employer spotlight, and then we'll go into planning.

Dallas asked Kelly to tell the group a little bit about herself as the Chief Operating Officer for CareerSource Okaloosa Walton.

FLORIDA'S VETERANS INITIATIVE

Kelly Jordan has been employed with the CareerSource Okaloosa Walton (Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa and Walton Counties) since 2004. She was named Chief Operating Officer in August 2014. Prior to being named the Chief Operating Officer, Kelly served in many areas for CareerSource including the Workforce Investment Act Program Manager and Business Services Manager. Kelly's experience in workforce development also includes managing the Department of Labor Grants and special projects, Veteran Services, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Welfare Transition Program, Re-employment Assistance Program, Youth Program, and Performance and Reporting.

In addition to her service to the CareerSource Okaloosa Walton, Ms. Jordan actively participates and supports numerous community organizations and programs, including Economic Development and Adult Education. She also serves as the Co-Chair for the Chief Operating Officers Group for all 24 CareerSource agencies.

Kelly opened her presentation with an overview of "[Get there Faster](#)," which is the Northwest Florida Military Outreach Collaboration grant. The Governor of Florida awarded this grant for workforce, innovation, and opportunity set aside funds with a focus on veterans transitioning service members of military spouses. They received over \$2 Million as a collaborative region, we are in the beginning stages. Throughout the pandemic, she was in the Center, through the pandemic there weren't a lot of people in the office for various reasons, which was a good way for operations to see exactly what was going on in the Center. It also gave her the opportunity to make some changes by being noticed in their Career Center, especially after the pandemic, you know where the reemployment office, however, through the pandemic we became the unemployment office again. With the front desk associates focused on unemployment compensation, she felt like they needed a whole separate area for the veterans, transitioning service members, and military spouses that could speak the language and understand opportunities coming into the Center specifically for eligible to see a disabled veteran's outreach program specialist or military family employment advocate that only serves military spouses independence. The whole area has a VIP vibe while clearly directing the visitors to the right area of the Center.

Next, she shared one of our best practices, which is their Quarterly Veteran Services Organization Networking Meetings. They have been doing this awhile, which makes their workforce board stand out from other workforce boards in Florida. Meetings are quarterly on services organizations get-togethers with one or two guest speakers and there are at least 30 or 40 different organizations, not just from our counties, but throughout the whole panhandle.

Stefanie Ebbens Kingsley asked, I know you're talking about interviewing skills and meeting with them prepping them for the interview process, do you guys have any tools that you have developed for skill translation, to the resume from their military experience to putting on for civilian job resume recruitment. Is there anything that you guys have done in that space? We're digging into the credit for prior learning and all that envelope of work, but just curious what you guys have encountered in that space.

Steve Bullard explained the **Joint Executive Council of Veterans Organizations** is basically getting together the 26 veteran service organizations in Kentucky on a regular basis, every couple of months. Other presidents and senior leaders to just talk about what's going on in the state and how they can get that word out locally you know, through their veteran service organizations and it's been a very effective tool. Of course, it's focused on making things happen at a local level, I was telling Dallas I think you know, this could be the same sort of networking function, though I think would have more potential because we're the type of people here in this office that can affect policy at a state or even regional, national, level.

For more information about Florida's Veterans Initiative, please review the PowerPoint presentation available in the meeting packet, which is available on [KWIB's webpage](#) under VATS Veterans and Transitional Servicemembers Subcommittee section.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT: ALIAS AIR

Dallas Kratzer stated the next thing on our agenda is an employer spotlight our plan was to have Amanda Scott with Atlas Air and atlas air is our most one of our most recent skill bridge CSP employers to come on board. Atlas Air will be bringing in Joe Robertson from North Dakota, back into the Bluegrass Area as an aircraft maintenance off or aircraft maintenance mechanic up at CB G the Cincinnati airport. He will start there the first week of August, so we are really excited about that, but their plan is to open this up to more aircraft maintenance people across the country.

Dallas Kratzer emailed with Joe Roberts and he was going to try to be here today, but he is moving his household goods today, so he couldn't be here, but he said, one of the things that's really worked out well for him is he's been able to share what atmosphere is doing for him through skill bridge with his fellow aircraft maintenance folks, and this is how the word gets out so we're expecting good things from the program.

UPDATES AND PLANS

Dallas updated the group on the KCMA/UofL C4 testimony before the Joint Commission on Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection (VMAPP) held on June 22, 2022, along with the DoD SkillBridge.

Stefanie Ebbens Kingsley asked what the next steps should be, as we can make concrete steps to recruit some of our larger employers to consider the scope bridge option.

Dallas answered by developing a survey to ask who's doing skill bridge, who's hiring veterans, asking how they are serving veterans through veteran resource groups within their organization.

Jason Hutchinson also added that the HP MP program hire vets medallion program, right here in Kentucky we're starting we're trying to really push that on businesses and so it kind of goes along with some conversations Dallas, Jason, and the working group are having. If we can get more invested in the HP MP program, then basically they receive a medallion and recognition for their hiring of veterans.

Stefanie updated the sub-committee on the Veteran's Summit that is currently being finalized. If anybody has any suggestions on topics or speakers for the summit, please email those to Stefanie Ebbens Kingsley at sebbenskingsley@ky.gov or Sara Jagers at sara.jagers@ky.gov.

For more details about the VATS Sub-committee discussion, please watch the recording and review the PowerPoint presentation available in the meeting packet, which is available on [KWIB's webpage](#) under VATS Veterans and Transitional Servicemembers Sub-committee section.

ADJOURNMENT 12:45 P.M. ET



KWIB Veterans and Transitioning Servicemembers (VATS) Sub-committee

AGENDA
Wednesday, July 13, 2022
11am – 12:30pm EST

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81594759075?pwd=QTY0bzhicGZTUFI2SVFNdXVlbGVNdz09>
Password: 406945

➤ Call Meeting to Order and Welcome

*Dallas F. Kratzer II, Co-Chair
VATS Sub-committee*

*Jason Hutchinson, Co-Chair
VATS Sub-committee*

➤ *Florida's Veterans Initiative*

*Kelly Jordan
CareerSource Okaloosa Walton*

➤ *Employer Spotlight: Alias Air*

*Amanda Scott
Alias Air*

*Joe Roberts
Servicemember*

➤ Updates and Plans:

- KCMA/UofL C4 testimony before the Joint Commission on Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection (VMAPP) on Jun 22, 2022.

*Dallas F. Kratzer II, Co-Chair
VATS Sub-committee*

- DoD SkillBridge Update

*Dallas F. Kratzer II, Co-Chair
VATS Sub-committee*

➤ Veteran's Summit

*Stefanie Ebbens Kingsley
Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)*

➤ Adjournment

Northwest Florida Military Outreach Collaboration – *Get There Faster Grant*

- ▶ CareerSource Escarosa
- ▶ CareerSource Okaloosa Walton
- ▶ CareerSource Chipola
- ▶ CareerSource Gulf Coast

Provides a regional approach to employment and training services for veterans, transitioning military and military spouses throughout the twelve counties that comprise Northwest Florida.



Program Design

➤ VIP Welcome Desk - “Red Velvet Rope” Approach to Welcoming and Serving Veterans, TSMs and Military Spouses

- ✓ Military Career Assistance Navigator and Military Career Advisor
- ✓ Seamless with Existing Programs - Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialists and Military Family Employment Advocacy Programs

➤ Military Friendly Career Success – Workshops specifically for Veterans, TSMs and Military Spouses

- ✓ Veteran Networking Group
- ✓ Resume Development
- ✓ Interviewing Skills
- ✓ Mock Interviews – *Best Practice*

➤ Transition Assistance Program (TAP) and Pre-Sep Briefings – transitioning from Military to Civilian Workforce

- ✓ DOD SkillBridge Opportunities
- ✓ Supportive Services
- ✓ On the Job and/or Occupational Skills Training



VIP Welcome Desk

Transition Assistance Program (TAP) and Pre-Sep Briefings



Military Friendly Career Success Workshops



Mock Interviews

Program Outreach

- ▶ Veterans Stand Down, County Veteran Treatment Court and Military Family Day
- ▶ Connecting veterans, transitioning service members and spouses with work-based training, which will include On the Job Training (OJT), Apprenticeships, Internships, and Employed Worker Training



Quarterly Veterans' Service Organizations Networking Meeting

- ▶ Guest Speakers
- ▶ Community Referrals
- ▶ Networking

