



KWIB Veterans and Transitioning Servicemembers (VATS) Sub-committee

AGENDA

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

11am – 12:30pm EST

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88254262478?pwd=dGxRTk5Eb0R1YUcxU0dQK2c3eXFhQT09>

Passcode: 835867

- Call Meeting to Order and Welcome

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

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

- Virginia Values Veterans V3 Program

*John Hall
Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS)*

*Jasmine Gore
Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS)*

- Employer Spotlight - KCARD

*Kellie Padgett
KCARD*

- Veterans Employment & Training Summit (VETS)

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

- Adjournment



KWIB Veterans and Transitioning Servicemembers (VATS) Sub-committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 11a.m. EST

Via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/NILZpOOZoOfvhHLF4Ufaxf7bz9zmWPRvApU9d_-7cmzBhgFQfcfMMMPwkyIrlhFK.IWZvJL66tf0Vx0Wo
Passcode: @c1V%zp?

CALL TO ORDER 11:01 A.M. ET

Welcome and Statement of Purpose

Dallas Kratzer, VATS co-chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.

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		Dr. Kris Williams	
Brian Selmeski		Linda Larson	
D’Neika Lopez		Mike Richie	
AJ Combs		Major Stephen Martin	
Zach Morgan		Matthew Boone SSG	
Karen McFadyen		Lala Williams	
Kirk Shepherd		William Seehorn	
Allen Whitney		Patricia Dawn (Pattie)	
BG Bullard		Representative Bill Wesley	
Gwen Hacker		Derek Poor	
Kelly Loring	x	Brown, Judith 'April	
Jon Sowards		Amanda Ellis	
Dwayne Edwards		Natalie Gibson	
Rebecca Wood		Sherry Johnson	x
James McClanahan			
Sara Jagers	x	Stefanie Ebbens Kingsley	

*Others in attendance: Dr. Gregory, Ally Hall, Bill Sandell, Chris Jarvis, Debbie Dennison, Hernando Flowers, JC Gregory, Johnny Pittman, Kellie Padgett, John Hall, Stacey Shane, Jasmine Gore, and Steven Bullard.

Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program

Dallas opened the floor to Jasmine Gore has been the V3 Program Manager since March and plans to share information regarding their Directorate and how the V3 Program operates. John Hall will share about the Skillbridge program. Dallas Kratzer explained that he was introduced to the V3 program in 2008 and V3 stands for Virginia values veterans, and it's

one of the best models he's seen to not only employers and better community, but through the State. The committee is excited to hear at the great work that Virginia is doing.

Jasmine Gore started with explaining the Virginia values by transparency program is under the transition and appointment wing of their agency. The agency is between the Department of Veterans services, which is a conglomerate of all thing's veterans for the city of Virginia. And so, under their agency, there is a wing that focuses on transition in employment exclusively. Basically, they talk about what is transition, which is pretty much helping those who are separated from the service get what they mean to have the best quality of life they can have in Virginia. They really focus heavily on appointment, support, entrepreneurship, and things that of that nature. However, their agency, makes sure that clients get referred to other service lines such as claims, healthcare, justice involved homelessness, transportation, children, the whole environment. For the purposes of today's conversation, the focus will be looking at transition regarding helping someone gain more support for resident writing, assistance, career, coaching opportunities to network, jobs, but then also get prepared for that employment to mock interviews, and even providing some assistance with clothing, to prepare for interviews.

John Hall will soon discuss the Harvest Downstairs Program, but for right now we have networking events called Harvest. Now they are on military installations across Virginia. It provides an opportunity for their employers to be able to interact with job seekers and share training and employment opportunities. The V3 program focuses primarily on the employment aspect and the V3 team is statewide. However small, they are divided into regions, so they have the Northern Virginia, Southwest Central, and then the tidewater Eastern Shore area. The Program coordinators job is to be the dispatched, administration, and the program manager. The four Regional Program Managers (Rpm) are the ones that are in the field, doing the work, and working with employers to get them to support their veteran hiring goals. Accomplished streaming things is the number one alignment of services. They want to make sure that their clients, whether it be the job seeker or the employer organization, are aligned correctly with the services that we offer, who serve as a concierge, to be able to walk them through this process, or when it comes to a transition service member or staff, or dependent. They are considered to be caretakers.

Dallas asked Jasmine to address user navigation. Once you come into their agency and need support or services, whether you are the transport service member, the veteran, or the employer, we want to make sure that how you navigate this network of resources is user friendly. Jasmine said the last thing is the biggest point, which is return on investment. As they align their services, that always want to make sure you know what it is that you're going to be getting when you partner with us, to be V3 three certified. Our first step is to enroll the V3 our website. Jasmine went on to explain the V3 website doesn't look like your standard Government website, and that's because they want to make sure that we're attracting employers, organizations, and businesses that are kind of cutting edge as well. So, no matter where you go on their website, you will see a red button that says enroll application process that takes literally less than three minutes to complete basic information that anyone in the organization should be able to answer. Applicants are sent over to the dispatcher and are assigned a regional program manager referring to Congressman earlier. That's your concierge service. That person is going to walk you through our program and connect you to tools and resources and essentially clients. The next step is training, which the training dates offered through the end of the year we ask employers to take one webinar to earn V3 certification. It's an hour long, instructed with a live trainer. Once you take the training, you will automatically be entered into the processing part for certification, which certifies you with the governor's office. You get a certificate, some package information, and then you have access to all the tools that we have under our umbrella.

John Hall worked under the military education and workforce initiative, which is a mouthful. But basically, means they have two different tracks the hierarchy is now Skillbridge program and the military educational enhancement programs. He went onto explain that in 2018, an MOU was setup with the Navy Region Medal, Atlantic, which gave us DVS. The capability of authorizing the three certified employers the opportunity to host Skillbridge-approved internship opportunities at their businesses. A Dod Skillbridge program as an employer, for example Walmart. The procedure was extensive, so through that entire process our relationship with navy regime like was born. This gave the opportunity to go to Walmart and say, you don't need to do that entire process, you can become our veterans. Now, Fellowship or Sowbridge, that same internship can be offered to that Service member without having to go through that DOD process.

The Navy regime in Atlantic gave us that authorization. Not too long after that they changed to a State agency and got approved through the Department of Defense as a Skillbridge provider. It gives us again the opportunity to go to any employment or provider in the State again as non-profits, as government agencies, and as private employers, large and small, and offer them the opportunity.

For more information about V3 programs, please watch the recording on the [KWIB's webpage](#) under the VATS section.

Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KARD)

Dallas opened the floor to Kellie Padgett, with the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rule Development, and my colleague, Ally Hall, is with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, and they are here to talk a little bit about KARD and agents. They work with ad businesses around the State on business, planning, financial projections and great facilitations.

So they've always worked with veterans, but usually as after they've transitioned out of the military looking for a second career looking for a retirement project. They can work through business startup all the way through any kind of business transition and are funded primarily through their Development Board here in the State of Kentucky, as well as several USDA grants, as well as Nippa. They work through business development, feasibility, plans, evaluate financials, work through employee and management issues. Before Covid, they tried to meet at the kitchen table, but now sometimes it's zoom, sometimes it's a kitchen table, you know, just kind of the the point being we try to make folks where they're at, and then provide resources from there.

Some other grant facilitation programs that we have worked with are State-specific, for example, Kentucky State University Small Street Farm Grant, Kentucky. It's Corporation, Kentucky for Council but they do work a lot with the USDA projects from farmers, school grants, small business innovation research farmers market promotion program, and with both veteran, as well as non-veteran status producers here across the States.

They have twelve across the State, specifically with pay card, and when they all went to virtual, they increased their webinars and materials available. So most of these are business development related. They also work with producers on local food expansion, so they do have a staff person who works primarily with producers that are looking to sell wholesale or to expand to a larger buyer. A lot of times this looks like a farmer approaching a Kroger and they approach a whole food, and their staff person, Olivia Vogel, is their local food promotion coordinator. She works with that individual and helps to facilitate that relationship. Every industry has different terminology, so in the agriculture industry working between farmer lingo versus wholesale lingo, and just making sure that those two worlds match up.

Kellie shared a picture, which is included in the meeting packet, which is from their networking event last July. It's National Institute for Food and Agriculture and Key Partners, Kentucky Horticulture Council, Kentucky Department of Ag and Kentucky Sheep and Go Development Office, all our key partners on this Grant program. The first key activity is mentoring, this is working with current producers in the State of Kentucky. Through our homegrown by heroes' program through the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and their current clients at KARD, who partner up those with either transitioning service members or folks that are looking to get started in Agriculture that just need to build their network.

The second component is working with internships, and they've been working with active-duty soldiers during that last six months of active duty. So, as Dallas said, the CSP program and setting them up with agriculture internships. They have focused on a fifty-mile radius around for Campbell right now, just religious state to ease of logistics, and they've got eleven hosts that are willing to take soldiers at any time, and she showed some of the contact information and explored their website. The internships are eight weeks.

The third component is education. So, working with the key partners on the great program, hosting workshops and Webinars increased. So they've got one coming up in October where they're doing a small workshop in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and they will be hosting additional ones with more council as well as KDA throughout the next twelve months.

Ally Hall stated that she would like to keep the line of communication open in terms of ideas and resources and tools. We're all here because we care about veterans we want to support. We want to support agriculture and job placement. Um, So she said they have a great network going, and she's excited to see where that takes them moving forward.

For more information, please watch the recording on the [KWIB's webpage](#) under the VATS section.

ADJOURNMENT 11:51 P.M. ET

DRAFT

Fort Knox Career & Education Fair

SEPTEMBER 15TH 2022!



Transition Assistance Program and Army Continuing Education Systems Introduces

The BIGGEST Event of 2022!

Free to the Public

- Meet admissions representatives from regional colleges and training programs
- Network with employers hiring in this area
- Don't forget, dress for success, and bring copies of your professional resume as interviews may be conducted

SEPTEMBER 15TH

10:00AM – 2:00PM

Saber & Quill

1118 E Chaffee Ave. Fort Knox, KY

Please Call 502.624.5622



The Virginia Values Veterans Program is a free training and certification program for employers to help them implement nationally recognized best practices in recruiting, hiring, and retaining highly-skilled and dependable Veterans.

The V3 Program is an official Commonwealth of Virginia Program, authorized under the Code of Virginia (§ 2.2-2001.2). It is organized under the directorate of Veterans Education, Training, and Employment (VETE), within the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS), an agency of the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs.



Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development



KCARD

CONTACT US

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- The Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD) is a non-profit organization established to facilitate agricultural and rural business development in Kentucky.
- We provide educational opportunities, technical assistance, and business support services to new and existing agribusinesses.
- We are supported primarily through grants provided by the USDA Rural Cooperative Development Program and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.



WHAT DO WE DO?

ASSIST BUSINESSES PLAN

ASSIST BUSINESSES MARKET

ANALYZE FEASIBILITY OF NEW VENTURES, NEW IDEAS

HELP BUSINESSES FIGURE OUT WHAT LOANS AND GRANTS ARE GOOD FITS

ANSWER QUESTIONS

EVALUATE FINANCIALS

ARC-GIS, TECH/WEBSITE QUESTIONS, EMPLOYEE ISSUES, MANAGEMENT QUESTIONS...

KCARD Program: Agricultural Grant Facilitation Program

USDA Value Added
Producer Grant

USDA Local Food
Promotion
Program Grant

USDA Farmers
Market Promotion
Program Grant

Kentucky State
University Small
Scale Farm Grant

USDA Meat
Processor
Investment
Program

Kentucky
Agricultural
Development
Board

USDA Farm to
School Grant

USDA Community
Food Project Grant

USDA Beginning
Farmer and
Rancher
Development

USDA Pandemic
Response and
Safety Grant

USDA Rural
Business
Development
Grant

USDA Small
Business
Innovation
Research

USDA
Environmental
Quality Incentives
Program

USDA Urban
Agriculture and
Innovative
Production Grant

Ky Hort Council
Small Fruit
Initiative



Materials on our Website



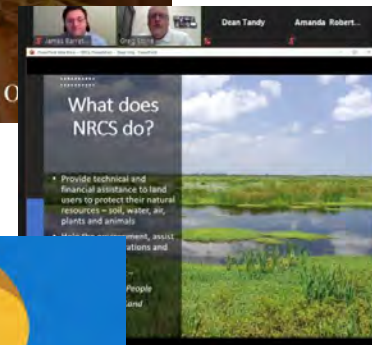
CASH FLOW AND INCOME STATEMENT: HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT AND HOW DO THEY WORK FOR YOU?
Jul 21, 2020



HOW MUCH AM I GOING TO MAKE? DEVELOPING REVENUE ASSUMPTIONS
Aug 4, 2020



FINDING THE DEAD BODIES IN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN KCARD MEETS CSI
Aug 25, 2020



FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS: LOOKING INTO A MORE RELIABLE CRYSTAL BALL TO MAKE DECISIONS
Aug 20, 2020



CONSUMER TRENDS – NOW AND GOING INTO FALL
Sep 1, 2020



LABOR-TO-SALES RATIO: WHAT IS IT? AND WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT IT?
Aug 11, 2020



NEW METHODS OF ACCEPTING PAYMENTS ONLINE
Apr 17, 2020



KCARD Program: Local Food Expansion Initiative

Helping farmers:

- **Commercial vegetable operation selling to a food hub in Virginia and to wholesaler.**
- **Egg producer to a CSA farm**
- **Greens producer to retailer**

Helping buyers:

- **Connecting new local food retail location with 15+ local producers**
- **Ongoing conversations to connect a retailer to Kentucky milk, distillery to local grains, and restaurant distributor to a pork producer.**

Partners:

- Community Farm Alliance
- Kentucky Horticulture Council
- University of Kentucky



KENTUCKY AGVETS

Key Partners

- Kentucky Center for Ag. And Rural Development
- Kentucky Horticulture Council
- Kentucky Department of Agriculture
- Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office





Key Activities

1

MENTORING

- Mentor Program for Veterans interested in starting an Ag. Business
- Create KY Chapter of Kentucky Farmer Veteran Coalition

2

INTERNSHIP

- Work with active-duty soldiers to set up agriculture internships

3

EDUCATION

- Work with partners to deliver veteran appropriate workshops

WHAT IS INCLUDED

1. AN 8-WEEK HANDS-ON INTERNSHIP WITHIN 50 MILES OF POST
2. A 3 CREDIT-HOUR COLLEGE COURSE CREDIT THROUGH HOPKINSVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
3. START-UP BUSINESS PLANNING (IF REQUESTED)
4. PAIRING WITH AN APPROPRIATE VETERAN AGRICULTURE MENTOR THROUGH THE KY AGVETS NETWORK.

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HIGHLIGHTS



Internships with local producers



Business Development



Monthly Zoom Calls

UNCLASSIFIED
Career Skills Program CSP Express Open House

Who: The Career Skills Program (CSP) and partners

What: CSP Express Open House

Where: 5663 Screaming Eagle Blvd.

When: 13 April 2022

Significance:

- Theme: All Aboard the CSP Express: *Train for your next Career.*
- More than 232 Soldiers and spouses engaged with career skills program partners.
- Hosted 26 programs in a variety of career fields.
- Supported by community service providers, such as VA, USO Pathfinders, ACES, and Spouse Employment Center, providing direct assistance for transition information.
- Very positive feedback from CSP partners and jobseekers; both requesting for future events.
- Partners provided raffle prizes, including tool kits, coolers, gift baskets, gift cards, and a Microsoft Surface laptop.

Soldiers and spouses engaged with Career Skills Programs and internship partners.

CSP Partners provided raffle prizes for attending Soldiers.

Teressa K. English/ 270-798-6511/ teressa.k.english.civ@army.mil 15 April 2022



KY State Fair



Networking Events



KENTUCKY CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT, 411 RING ROAD, ELIZABETHTOWN, KY, 42701,
(859) 550-3972 KCARD@KCARD.INFO