

# PVA VETERANS CAREER PROGRAM UPDATE

July 2023

## WORKPLACE ACCOMMODATIONS



Tyneeta Silmon, a Navy Veteran, reached out to the Veterans Career Program (VCP) for assistance in finding new employment - her current job was becoming too much to manage and she was thinking about changing career fields. After some investigation, our Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC), Joel Hoots, learned that Tyneeta really liked

her current job as a field service specialist; but was having difficulty getting the job done and required some accommodations to allow her to continue working in her field.

Joel suggested that they look at keeping her current job and going through the process of requesting a reasonable accommodation. Tyneeta scheduled appointments with her doctor to get the evidence she needed along with some restrictions recommended by her doctor. She provided this information to her supervisor and human resources department; and they were able to discuss long-term accommodations that they could put into place for Tyneeta so that she could continue working in her position.

Tyneeta shared that she was so glad that she reached out to VCP to discuss her work situation; and was thankful that Joel helped her work through the accommodation process so she didn't have to change career fields. She explained that her employer was understanding in the process and worked with her to find a solution that worked for both sides. Tyneeta noted that she kept hearing the VRC's voice in her head saying "don't quit your job," and she was able to make it through. She stated that she would have quit if not for the accommodations she received.

*The Job Accommodation Network (<https://askjan.org/>) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment.*

## MONTHLY IMPACT

### 13 Client Placements

- 12 Paid Employment
- 1 Education/Training
- 0 Volunteer
  - 11 Veterans
  - 0 Active Duty
  - 2 Family Members
  - 0 Caregivers
  - 2 PVA Members
- The average salary for the 10 clients placed in full-time employment was \$82,612; and the average income for the 2 clients placed in part-time work was \$7,800.



## 2023 NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES



Members of the PVA Veterans Career Program staff had the honor and pleasure of attending the 42<sup>nd</sup> National Veterans Wheelchair Games (<https://wheelchairgames.org/>) July 4-9 in Portland, OR.

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) is the world's largest annual wheelchair sports and rehabilitation event solely for military veterans. The event demonstrates the unstoppable character of veterans; and seeks to foster wider respect and opportunities for all people with disabilities.

The NVWG is open to all U.S. veterans with spinal cord injuries, amputations, multiple sclerosis, or other central neurological conditions who require a wheelchair for athletic competition. Every year, hundreds of American heroes from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, and the post-9/11 era compete in this celebration of sport, courage and camaraderie. We hope to see you next year in New Orleans, LA (July 25-30, 2024).