

# PVA VETERANS CAREER PROGRAM UPDATE

June 2024

## HELP DURING MILITARY TRANSITION



In September of 2022, our Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC), Danielle Hetu, came in contact with Russell Parker via LinkedIn. Russell was still in the Marines and was planning his transition. His utilization of LinkedIn, particularly his posts

regarding his journey led to Danielle contacting him to offer assistance and resources. While Russell was well on his way, Danielle shared resources, sent training resources, and information related accommodations. He landed a fellowship and ultimately was hired at Barclays.

Danielle and Russell have continued to have periodic check ins, and in June 2024, Danielle was following up and discovered that Russell had started his own LLC (Forty-Four Risk PM, LLC. <https://theriskblog.com/>) as a way to continue his dedication to learning and also sharing what he has learned. Russell has had a successful career transition and with his LLC, is able to share resources and information to others and he has a strong desire to make his site available to other veterans in his field.

*VRC Danielle Hetu stated, "One thing I remember so vividly, Russell stated that even though he was in the military for 20 years, he was astonished at the resources available to veterans during and post transition. Even though I was really just checking in and sending resources, Russell took advantage of all resources and he is a perfect example of how to take advantage of veteran programs and services."*

## MONTHLY IMPACT

### 19 Client Placements

- 14 Paid Employment
- 5 Education/Training
- 0 Volunteer
  - 19 Veterans
  - 1 Active Duty
  - 1 Family Member
  - 1 Caregiver
  - 3 PVA Members



- The average salary for the 8 clients in full time employment is \$59,318; and the average income for the 6 clients in part time employment is \$26,062.

**In FY24, the Veterans Career Program placed a total of 240 clients (including 49 PVA members); and has placed a total of 3,163 clients (including 484 PVA members) since its inception in 2007.**

## WELCOME HEIDI CLAYPOOL



We'd like to welcome our newest Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC), Heidi Claypool. She has a MS Degree in Rehabilitation and Mental Health, is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC). Heidi resides in the Tampa, FL area, and will be supporting clients in FL, AL AK, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC & PR.

*My name is Heidi Claypool and I'm excited to join PVA! I have worked in the nonprofit, veteran sector for over nine years. I graduated from USF with a Masters in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling along with my CRC. Prior to this, I worked as an outpatient therapist and interned at the James A. Haley VA, as a vocational rehabilitation specialist. Having had multiple family members in the military and having been a military spouse, I have seen the need and have a passion for helping the veteran community.*

*On a personal note, I have two adult children, and will be promoted to Gammy at the end of this year. I have three border collies and two cats, all energetic rescues. I enjoy exploring new places, venturing out into nature and am a Disney fanatic.*