



Mission Forward MOAA Partnership

Overview: Esperanza En Escalante is launching Mission Forward, a comprehensive employment initiative transforming 40 homeless veterans into skilled professionals through accelerated career training. We're seeking MOAA's partnership through computer donations, mentorship, and other support to ensure program success.

The Need: Tucson faces critical workforce shortages while veterans experience homelessness at nearly twice the civilian rate. Many lack civilian job skills and struggle with trauma, substance use, and the difficult military-to-civilian transition. Mission Forward addresses these intersecting challenges through integrated training and support.

The Solution: Partnering with Pima Community College's Fast Track program, we provide 14-week certifications in:

- Information Technology (CompTIA A+ prep) - where computer donations are critical
- Commercial Driving (CDL)
- Skilled Trades (Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing, Carpentry)

Veterans receive wraparound support including recovery services, mental health care, and 12-month job retention coaching. Pre-secured employer commitments ensure immediate employment upon certification.

MOAA Partnership Opportunities:

Computer Donations:

- 10 veterans in IT track need reliable computers for training and certification prep
- Laptops allowing veterans to practice skills and complete coursework
- Ongoing technology needs as program expands

Mentorship Program:

- MOAA members provide career guidance and military-to-civilian transition support
- Mock interviews helping veterans practice and build confidence
- Industry professionals offer sector-specific mentoring
- Leadership development for veterans entering supervisory roles
- Resume review and professional networking opportunities

Additional Support Options:

- Scholarship funding for certifications or tools
- Employer connections within MOAA membership
- Professional clothing donations for interviews
- Guest speakers sharing transition success stories

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- Skills workshops on civilian workplace culture

Impact:

- Veterans earn \$47,916-\$55,471 annually in stable careers
- 80% job placement rate with 70% retention at 12 months
- \$20 return on every dollar invested in the program
- Breaking cycles of homelessness, addiction, and despair

Why MOAA Matters: Your members understand military culture and the challenges of transition. Veterans trust guidance from those who've successfully navigated similar paths. MOAA's involvement demonstrates to participants that the broader military community stands ready to support their success.

Through Mission Forward, MOAA can directly impact fellow veterans' lives, helping them reclaim their dignity and purpose through meaningful careers. Together, we'll prove that no veteran who served our nation should face homelessness or hopelessness.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support.

Suzanne Bond
CEO

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