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Veterans Corner: Educational Opportunities Critical for Returning Veterans

By: John Carrigan, President

Does the current conflict in Iraq affect you? The war in the Middle East and other military deployments around the globe impacts many people. Pennsylvania contributes larger than average number of its citizens to the effort.

Veterans are beginning to return home, prepared to start the next phase in their lives. For some veterans this means returning to school and for others it means learning new skills. Each month, the commonwealth has approximately 1,000 new veterans coming home. These veterans are returning with government money set aside for education and career training.

The Veterans Resource Central (VRC) is a Pennsylvania-based non-profit organization that provides transition assistance to returning veterans and active duty military and their families through a network of information, volunteers and services. The VRC provides education, information and guidance to veterans transitioning to civilian life.

Education services available to assist veterans include: distance learning, entrepreneurial training and career development.

The VRC partnered with Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) as one of their education partners. Additionally, they teamed up with HACC's Entrepreneurial Center to put together a first class business start up program for veterans in Southcentral Pennsylvania.

The VRC CareerCenter, which is under development, will provide veterans with a one-stop source of information and career guidance to achieve their personal goals. We want to provide them with the guidance and support to ensure that we will deliver a high rate of success.

For more information, call John Carrigan or Barbara Groce today at 717.221.1306 or visit www.veteransresourcecentral.org