

VIPER TRANSITIONS

WE ARE REDEFINING
TRANSITION



OUR MISSION

To end veteran suicide through the elimination of its main causes: veteran unemployment, underemployment, substance abuse, homelessness, and a fractured support system. We work to accomplish our mission through pre-employment training, resource networking, outreach, and the inclusion of military spouses in our programs.

WHO WE ARE

- VIPER is a non-profit, EIN 82-5454885, dedicated to supporting military families
- The VIPER Board of Directors is a diverse group of veterans, military spouses, and industry representatives.
- We are an organization founded by veterans for veterans.

WHAT WE DO

PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

- Our programs guarantee placement in a career. Whether the participant receives direct entry into an apprenticeship or learns needed skills through an internship, VIPER participants are set up for success.

RESOURCE NETWORKING

- Participants are introduced to numerous Veterans Service Organizations, the VA system, and a community of fellow veterans already employed in the participants' future career. Providing mentorship and introduction to valuable resources before they are needed.

OUTREACH

- Outreach programs establish a quality connection with participants allowing VIPER to assess and clearly understand participant's career needs, while providing an opportunity to answer questions and concerns they may have about their transition from the military. We strive to ensure veterans know we are here for them through combating invasive species in Operation Combat Pike, deep sea fishing with Fish to End 22, staffing a booth at job fairs, or simply participating in veteran focused events.



OPERATION COMBAT PIKE

VIPER introduces veterans to resources available to them through other Veteran Serving Organizations, the VA, and more.

Veterans meet other veterans already in their prospective career field and have direct contact numbers for people committed to supporting them through transition.

This program also assists the State of Alaska in combating invasive Northern Pike.

FISH TO END 22

This program operates primarily on the East Coast.

Like Operation Combat Pike veterans are introduced to resources and a support network.

This program also competes in fishing tournaments where the proceeds go to fund VIPER training programs.



HONORING THE PAST

The Veteran Suicide Epidemic is not a new problem. Mental health, employment, and other related issues have been present in the transition of veterans into civilian life for decades.

VIPER honors our military heritage by utilizing historical pieces to serve as training tools in our programs.

Pictured to the left is the donated R4D that the VIPER Aviation Maintenance program uses. It served as a Marine VIP Transport.




WHO WE HAVE HELPED

VIPER has successfully helped integrate 100 Veterans into quality careers.

VIPER has placed 3 Military Spouses into careers.

VIPER has partnered with over 15 organizations and companies spanning across Alaska and the United States.

HOW VIPER PROGRAMS WORK

- Anyone who partners with VIPER is required sign an agreement with VIPER.
 - The agreement requires to the company to sign a contract with the veteran or military spouse to be employed with the company which guarantees; hire after separation, wages and benefits to be received, and the training needed for the veteran to be employed.
 - After the VIPER applicant and the employer have reached an agreement on the terms of the arrangement, VIPER works with the employer to facilitate the Skillbridge process.
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PROGRAMS

The following are our most active programs:

- VIPER Ironworkers
- Veterans Electrical Entry Program (VEEP)
- VIPER Aviation Maintenance Program
- SMART Heroes
- VIPER Mechanics Internships
- VIPER Lab Tech Internships

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Approximately 200,000 veterans transition out of the military every year <https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-19-438R>
- 88% Veterans who go to college after transition drop out. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/veterans-college-drop-out_n_2016926
- There are approximately 18.8 million Veterans in the United States. Making up almost 8% of the population.
 - Veterans make up approximately 1/3 of Alaska's population.
 - Dunbars number for individual relationships is 150, if you use a more conservative number of 5 close personal friends, Veterans can directly affect approximately 94 million Americans. 28.6% of America's population.
 - <https://www.ncsl.org/blog/2017/11/10/veterans-by-the-numbers.aspx>



REASONS WE ARE THE SOLUTION

- Mission and Purpose
 - Our programs present transitioning veterans with a new mission: To have a successful career as civilians
 - Our careers represent a new purpose: to be the best craftsmen in their industry and support fellow veterans
- We are the answer to:
 - “What do I do now?”
 - “How do I provide for my family?”
 - “What is my purpose? Where do I belong?”



CONCLUSION

Veterans serve our State and our Nation with honor. It is up to us to serve them as they transition into civilian life.

One veteran lost to suicide, is one too many.

As a community, a State, and a Nation we must do better to support veteran reintegration.

VIPER is here to see to it that every veteran is given an opportunity to have the American Dream they fought to defend.

