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Military Veteran on a Mission to Overcome Unemployment



Amy Gentry chose to join the U.S. Army as a way to test the waters to see if she wanted to pursue a career in nursing. She enlisted as a Medical Specialist and was stationed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center working in the Pediatric Clinic and the Surgical Recovery Room. Amy became an Allergy/Clinical Immunology Technician and her hard work and initiative was recognized and she was assigned to become an Instructor for the course. She embraced military service and found it to be a great training ground to be on the administrative side of providing medical care.

After serving her country for several years, Amy set out to obtain a civilian job, finding that the training and experience she received in the military provided her with an edge and the confidence to apply for positions that aligned with her medical work in the military. Acquiring every job she applied for, Amy thought her career was set and that she would never have to worry about finding work again.

After working in two clinics and an outpatient surgical center, Amy started her own medical billing company, which proved to be successful, but only for a period of time. When circumstances forced Amy to once again find employment, she was willing to take anything that would support her and worked as a Permit Technician and a Correctional Officer. Amy even gave entrepreneurship one more try, but like many, the challenges of the recession caught up with her and she eventually found herself unemployed and homeless.

Now Amy, whose resilience to march on despite her circumstances, speaks volumes about her character, is on a mission to get back on her feet and find a job with the help of WHW (Women Helping Women/Men2Work). Amy attends WHW Employment Readiness Workshops and computer classes regularly and will be a participant in WHW's 2nd Annual 'Value Veteran's Day' on Friday, November 7th. In recognition of Veteran's Day, WHW's Value Veteran's Day is a program to provide Military Veterans who are unemployed or underemployed with the opportunity to receive business attire and accessories, a new haircut/style and the opportunity to obtain one-on-one employment coaching. Amy along with 29 other Veterans will attend the program at no charge and will walk away with a new look, interview-ready attire and a new found confidence.

"WHW has given me the opportunity to reinvent myself to seek my full potential. The integrity, encouragement, and training this agency has provided me have been a true lifeline."

WHW salutes Amy and all Veterans who have bravely served our country. Dedicated to empower men and women with the tools they need to seek and secure employment, WHW embraces the opportunity to provide these services to our nation's heroes as they journey toward civilian employment success.

About WHW. WHW is a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to provide comprehensive employment support services to empower disadvantaged men, women and teens to achieve economic self-sufficiency through employment success and who has served over 50,000 clients since 1993. WHW's Employment Success Program includes resume and interviewing skills, workshops, computer classes, image consulting, professional clothing appropriate for interviews and transportation services. Supported by United Way, WHW's services are always at no charge or obligation to clients and 275 referring non-profit partners. For more information on WHW and its Employment Success Program, go to www.whw.org.

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