Bringing Together Those Who Serve Veterans

In the spirit of National Veteran and Military Families month, on Friday, November 22, 2019, DCAS and the Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) hosted a 2019 Veteran Career Services Professional Networking event at 4 World Trade Center.

DCAS’s Commissioner Lisette Camilo, and MOPD’s Assistant Commissioner Martha Jackson provided welcoming remarks to members of the veterans’ community, expressed appreciation to military service members employed in City government, and shared a vision of increasing diversity in the City’s workforce.

At this event, DCAS’s Office of Citywide Recruitment and MOPD’s NYC: ATWORK team joined forces to speak with career services representatives at local organizations dedicated to providing veterans with workforce preparation programs, career counseling, and employment resources. The team highlighted the importance of collaboration between City agencies and external organizations to provide access to City employment. DCAS and MOPD were joined by representatives from City agencies such as NYPD, FDNY, Buildings, Environmental Protection, DOITT, and the MTA who share similar interest in networking and building relationships with external veterans’ organizations.

After a brief break, participants were inspired by a “City Talk” discussion between veterans Raymond Cruze (DCAS) and Ramakrishna Kadukuntla (MOPD), moderated by Taniqua Hunter, Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (ACCES-VR) business relations representative from the Queens district office. They addressed the challenges that veterans face when returning to civilian life, how the community can better prepare service members for civilian jobs, and heighten awareness to increase hiring efforts.

The event concluded with the City agency representatives networking with members of the veterans’ community.