
DONOR DOLLARS TRANSPARENCY

\$1.00 DONATED = \$200 IN PERFORMANCE

A donation to VetJobs is not traditional charity—it is highly efficient capital allocation. In 2025, we facilitated 10,143 confirmed job placements at an average starting salary of \$88,500, generating \$897,655,500 in first-year wages.

Against an annual operating budget of approximately \$4.5 million, this equates to \$199.48 of economic impact for every \$1 donated (~200x).

This level of efficiency is rare in any sector and reflects a scalable, measurable approach to economic mobility for veterans and military families.

A more nuanced & conservative view:

We focus on a simple outcome: placing veterans and military spouses into meaningful, well-paying jobs.

The population we serve is often:

- Unemployed, or
- Underemployed and earning below their potential

A realistic baseline for this group is about \$30,000 in annual income.

Our average placement is \$88,500, which means:

Each placement generates approximately \$58,500 in additional (marginal) annual income.

Across more than 10,000 placements, that results in:

~\$593 million in added income each year. This is income BEYOND what they would have gotten on their own, and is the VetJobs / Military Spouse Jobs contribution.

A Conservative, Defensible View

While total economic output is ~200x, a more conservative approach adjusts for baseline conditions and shared contribution across the ecosystem.

Using disciplined assumptions:

- Adjusting for unemployment and underemployment.
- Applying reasonable attribution (40%–50%) since VJ/MSJ have roughly half of verifiable confirmed hires annually.

We estimate \$53 to \$70 of real economic impact for every \$1 donated.

Even at the low end, this represents the highest defensible return on philanthropic capital in the ecosystem, and the largest that we can find in a US nonprofit.

Additional Impact (Not Fully Included Above)

This analysis is intentionally conservative and does not fully capture:

- Multi-year employment and career growth
- Reduced reliance on unemployment benefits
- Increased tax revenue
- Improved family stability and long-term outcomes
- Decreased risk for divorce, familial stress, and suicide

These factors would materially increase total impact.

Conclusion

VetJobs and Military Spouse Jobs convert modest philanthropic investment into large-scale, measurable economic outcomes.



About the Author

Andrew Sandoe is a Marine Corps Veteran and VetJobs Government Affairs Consultant. He is leading subject-matter-expert on non-profit sustainability.

Whether viewed through:

- Total economic impact (~200x). This is total confirmed hires *average starting salary.
- Conservative impact (53x–70x). This adjusts for the veterans who would have found employment on their own, or remained underemployed.

The conclusion is the same:

This is the most effective and efficient nonprofit through which to turn philanthropic dollars into economic mobility for veterans and military families. For donors seeking to maximize the impact of their capital, this is the diamond in the rough.

