Serving Those Who Served: NASWA Vet Conference 2023

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

The National Association of State Workforce Agencies held its 10th annual Veterans Conference August 2-4, 2023. This year's event highlighted the 75th anniversary of women having the opportunity to make the military a career, and the six keynote speakers were all women - including three Veterans and two Military Spouses. The event included other speakers, several panels, 24 different workshops, two DOL "listening sessions" and presentation of the Mark Sanders Award for excellence. A survey was sent to all registered attendees following the conference, and 135 people responded, or 38.14%.

354

Total persons registered, representing 36 states and the District of Columbia.

86%

Percentage of people who said their conference experience was excellent or above average.

Favorite Conference Sessions

- Promising Practice Florida: Empowering Veterans Through Coordinated Jobs for Veterans State Grant and Workforce
- The Veterans Consortium: Legal Services for Veterans
- What's Happening in the VETS/JVSG/VA VR&E Space?
- Value of Apprenticeships for Veterans
- Entrepreneurship: How to Get Started

Keynotes Were A Highlight

Survey respondents had lots of positive comments about all of the keynote speakers and breakout sessions, especially US Navy Veteran Kim Mitchell.

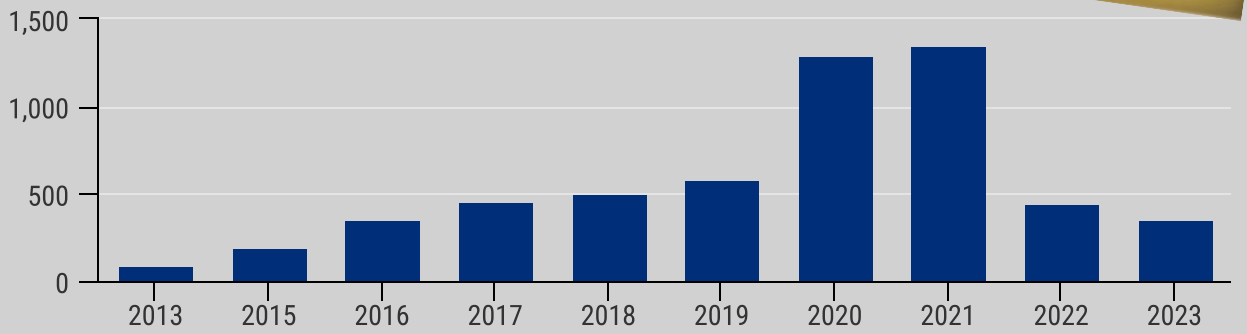
Mark Sanders Award Winner!

The Opelika Career Center in Alabama received the 2023 Mark Sanders Award for Exceptional Service to Veterans with Significant Barriers to Employment.

Being in person is great!

*No conference held in 2014; 2020 & 2021 Virtual

Registered Attendance



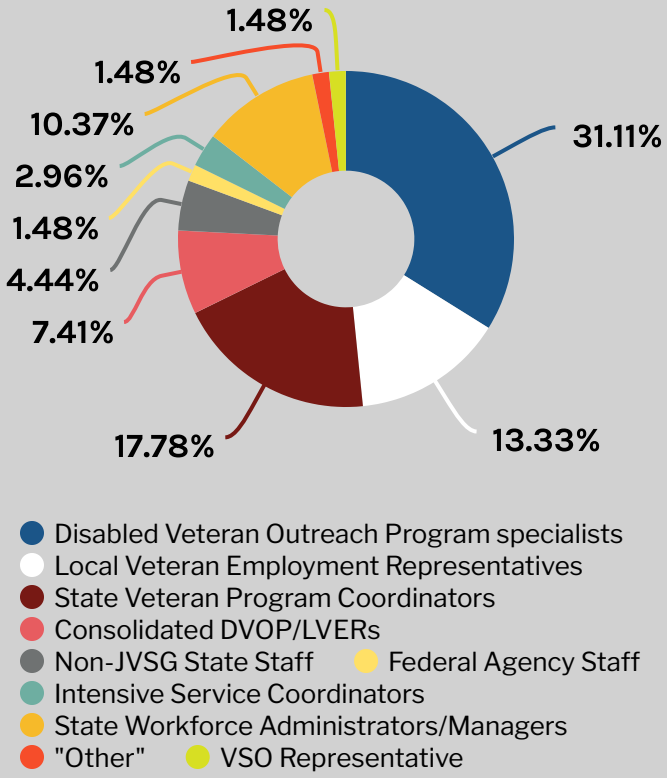
Mark Your Calendars for August 7-9, 2024

Program Ideas for 2024

The following were suggestions offered by persons responding to the 2023 NASWA Veterans Conference Survey:

- **Spread breakout sessions out so attendees can attend more of them**
- **Repeat breakout sessions**
- **Have sessions specifically for DVOPs and LVERs**
- **Offer sessions targeted at older and Vietnam Veterans**
- **No politics please**
- **Fewer keynote speakers, especially on the first day**
- **DOL VETS listening session needs to be in a bigger room**
- **Continue to feature promising practices**

Who Attended This Year?



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