

## Boots to Business Program Continues to Thrive into its 7<sup>th</sup> Year!



*Our first Veterans "Entrepreneurship Pathway" workshop in August 2012. A panel of Veteran business owners share their knowledge with transitioning service members.*

It was August 2012 that Community Business Partnership (CBP) held its first "Entrepreneurship Pathway" workshop at Marine Corps Base Henderson Hall. This two day workshop was the precursor to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) "Boots to Business" program - which would officially launch in January of 2013. We had 6 attendees including the base Commanding Officer.

By the end of 2018, the Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) will have taught/supported 55 Boots to Business workshops on 16 military installations as well as 5 Reboot workshops in Northern Virginia, Washington DC, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Over 1000 members of the military community will have attended these workshops; and we already have an aggressive schedule of workshops slated for 2019.



*A recent Boots to Business class held at Joint Base Ft Myers-Henderson Hall.*



**What is Boots to Business and how can you attend one of the many workshops?** Boots to Business is an entrepreneurial education and training program offered by the SBA as part of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP) taught on military installations around the world. The two-day "Introduction to Entrepreneurship" course introduces participants to key elements of small business ownership to assist in determining if entrepreneurship is a feasible and practical transition strategy. The curriculum provides assistance to those interested in exploring business ownership or other self-employment opportunities by leading participants through the key steps for evaluating business concepts and providing foundational knowledge required to develop a business plan. Participants are introduced to a broad spectrum of entrepreneurial business concepts and the resources available to access start-up capital, technical assistance, contracting opportunities, and more.



And the Boots to Business Reboot program is a one or two-day, in-person course is offered off installation and provides participants with an overview of business fundamentals, while introducing techniques for evaluating the feasibility of business concepts. **Like the Boots to Business program, Reboot is open to all members of the military community (this includes all-era Veterans, active duty, National Guard and Reserve, and military spouses and family members).**

To learn more about the Boots to Business and Reboot programs, and to find a workshop near you, please visit <https://sbavets.force.com/s/>. Registration is available on-line; but you must contact the base Transition Assistance Office to confirm attendance and base access for the Boots to Business workshops.

A very big “Thank You” to everyone who has supported us and our efforts over the years. We are proud to be able to support the military community.

