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Brevard Job Link Supports Military Spouse Training Program First of its kind training to assist military spouses find meaningful employment

Rockledge, Florida – Brevard Job Link provided funding and coordination of a first of its kind training program offered to military spouses stationed at military bases in Brevard including Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Through the Military Family Employment Advocacy program grant obtained by Brevard Workforce Development Board, Inc. and administered through Brevard Job Link, 16 spouses of active duty military members received Microsoft Office training through Keiser College located in Melbourne. The training provided the participants with vital computer skills increasing their ability to find employment in the regions where they must re-locate due to their spouse's military transfers. Classes began on April 15 and concluded May 28, 2008.

Military spouses are often disadvantaged when pursuing a career due to frequent moves and the unpredictable child care options they face due to their spouse's deployment to a war zone. This program provides military spouses with solid computer skills often sought after by employers. By obtaining quality employment, military spouses are able to contribute to the financial well-being of their family thus easing some of the financial stress associated with frequent deployments, unemployment and underemployment.

The military spouses that participated in the training were representative of all those supporting service members today. The class included one male spouse, a large range in ages, participation by several military ranks and representation by three different services, those being Air Force, Army and Navy.

Now that the training has concluded, Brevard Job Link will assist the graduates by providing employment services and identifying employment opportunities.

For more information about the Military Family Employment Advocacy Program, contact Military Family Employment Advocate, Faith Morgan at (321) 494-5676. To learn more about the programs and services offered by Brevard Job Link, call 504-7600 toll free in Brevard or visit us on the web at <u>www.brevardjoblink.org</u>.



Participants in the Microsoft Office training for Military Spouses are: Top row, left to right: Class Instructor Lesa Densley, Shari Phan, Benny Screws, Tashina Kuhns, Kim Graves, Michelle Kohlhof, Mary Tunder, Cynthia Bultman and Diana Duncan. Bottom row, left to right: Cynthia McCune, Virginia Ponti, Jeanette Manibusan, Tina Klassy, Debbie Shook, and Eva Ferrer.