OBJECTIVE

To raise awareness and support for our Veterans by providing services and assistance to help them find purposeful employment, Mental Health First Aid training along with improving their morale. Promote Veteran hiring and training to businesses and help bridge the gap between Veterans and Veteran opportunities.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- June 2018 secured certification as a Mental Health First Aid Instructor.
- June 2017 Served as panelist for the Building Collaborative Communities in Maryland: A conference for those who SERVE Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families.
- June, July, and August, 2017 Formed partnership with local yoga studio and Veteran yoga instructor so the VA Way could provide FREE yoga to Veterans.
 Yoga is a profoundly healing practice that brings relief from stress, anxiety, and PTSD.
- May 2017 participated and completed at the first Project Opportunity Next Level training program
 at the Department of Veterans Affairs Baltimore Md. This 10 week course is designed for Veterans
 by Veterans to help take a true entrepreneurial spirit to the next level and be more successful in
 our business or future business.
- April 2017 The VA Way and Mr. Gary Canteen were presented the Seven Seals Award for meritorious leadership and initiative in support of the men and women who serve America in the National Guard and Reserve.
- April 2017 The Department of Defense presented the Pro Patria Award to Pikesville Jiffy Lube. This
 annual award presented by the ESGR State Committee to one small employer in their state.
 Recipients have demonstrated the greatest support to Guard and Reserve employees through
 their leadership and practices, including adopting personnel policies that make it easier for
 employees to participate in the National Guard and Reserve. This is the highest level award that
 may be bestowed by an ESGR State Committee.
- January 2016 Maryland Department of Veteran Affairs gives Official Citation to John Way, Jiffy Lube-Pikesville & The VA Way in recognition of my commitment to Maryland's veterans and their families.
- 2016 Participated in Hiring Our Heroes State Roundtables: as an employer of Veterans was able
 to provide current Veteran employment best practices and help create a community dialogue to
 cross-promote initiatives concerning Veteran Employment.
- 2016 The ESGR presented the above and Beyond Award to Jiffy Lube Store #722 Pikesville
 Maryland for continued support and accomplishments in hiring and retaining the Guard and
 Reserve.
- September 2015 The VA Way provided professional development and education to the
 Department of Veterans Affairs vocational staff. During the Bi-Annual Vocational Services
 Colloquium which greatly strengthened core competencies that will enable this program to
 provide exceptional vocational rehabilitation and employment services.

- Partnered with The Fort Meade Alliance and participated as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) in the 2015 FMA Education & Workforce forum, Innovative Partnerships: Industry, Government and Academia Meeting Critical Workforce Needs. Topic was: Mission Veterans.
- 2014 Recognition to John Way and Jiffy Lube store #722 from the Office of the Secretary of Defense Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve as a Patriotic Employer.
- 2014 Created a partnership with Project PLASE to help find employment and housing for our homeless veterans. Received Outstanding Service Award for Jiffy Lube efforts in hiring homeless Veterans. Additionally in 2015 the VA Way was awarded Partner of the Year for outstanding and dedicated service to the clients of the SSVF program and Mary Slicer the Executive director of Project PLASE.
- Awarded a governor's citation in 2014 for achieving the highest percent of veteran employees at my Jiffy Lube workforce. Fifty percent of my Jiffy Lube staff are veterans and my Jiffy Lube location was the only company out of 186 companies involved in Maryland's Operation Hire to achieve these goals https://veterans.maryland.gov/operation-hire-maryland/
- Article written in MD BIZ, Maryland Jiffy Lube Owner Becomes Veterans Crusader. http://mdbiznews.business.maryland.gov/tag/veterans/
- Participated in Operation Hire 2014, a 100-day hiring mission for all businesses in the state of Maryland. Operation Hire committee member and participant 2015 and 2016 visited different regions in Maryland and spoke to employers on benefits and challenges of hiring Veterans.
- 2014 Recognition to John Way and Jiffy Lube store #722 from the Office of the Secretary of Defense Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve as a Patriotic Employer.
- 2013 launched my Veteran Owned and operated campaign for my Jiffy Lubes.

WORK HISTORY

2006 to 2018 – Jiffy Lube: franchise Owner Operator of franchise location over one million in sales annually 2017 & 2018. Applying VA Way hiring practices at my Jiffy Lube location from 2015 through 2018 2016 with average of 85% Veteran staff each year increasing sales and customers by 30% each in 2016. Finishing number one in the Maryland area. Additionally having 50% of the staff certified in mental health first aid. 2012 to Present – Professional Emcee of the Charm City Bluegrass festival, I take on the role of an Ambassador to promote a better overall experience for the fans, artist, sponsors, vendors, and promoters through my passion to ensure everyone at a festival enjoys their experience to its fullest. Promoting Mental Health first aid awareness. 1999 – 2006 – Vice President of Operations for Jiffy lube Franchisee and managed and operated 8 locations over two states.

1992 – 1998 – Assistant Food and Beverage Director, Baltimore Marriott Camden Yards, Baltimore MD. 1985 to 1992 U.S. Army, held Top Secret SCI/SBI Security Clearance. Honorable Discharg**e.**

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REFERENCES

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