

For Immediate Release

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**NPower Technology Service Corps SF Bay Area
Graduates Its Inaugural Class of San Francisco Veterans**

SAN FRANCISCO (June 24, 2015) – Thirty-three proud U.S. Armed Forces veterans recently graduated from NPower’s Technology Service Corps San Francisco Bay Area’s inaugural class. This innovative, veteran-focused technology careers training program saw 79% of its students pass the A+ certification and 5 students obtain the ServiceNow certification.

An alarming 160,000 Gulf War-era II veterans are unemployed in the United States. NPower’s mission is to mobilize the tech community and provide individuals, nonprofits and schools opportunities to build tech skills and achieve their potential. The San Francisco Bay Area office of NPower is focused on improving veteran lives by providing free information technology training and career services.

Through the Technology Service Corps 20 week program, graduates participated in thirteen weeks of intensive class-based training, learning skills such as installing, configuring and troubleshooting computer hardware and software and providing web design and maintenance. Based on the Cisco Networking Academy this rigorous curriculum prepares program graduates for employment in a range of technology positions, including technical, business and project analysis. Week thirteen included a 20 hour ServiceNow Administrator training and additional interviewing support. The final 7 weeks consisted of private apprenticeships at leading companies, such as: Robert Half, Abode Services, Redwood City Library and Stanford Health Care.

In attendance were representatives from both corporate and veteran service agencies, including Robert Half, Ernst and Young, Kaiser Permanente, Stanford Health Care, Proofpoint and JPMorgan Chase. We were also fortunate enough to be joined by Veterans Helping Veterans, Swords to Plowshares, Team AM Vet and the Women Veterans Commission.

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Executives from NPower partnering companies and foundations presented the following awards to select graduating veterans:

- *JPMorgan Chase Leadership Award*: Matt Stohner
- *Robert Half Service Award*: Mark Atlee
- *Stanford Health Care Inspiration Award*: Renoir Welch
- *Stanford Health Care Performance Award*: James Roe

Class 1 graduation speaker Jose Maldonado remarked, "Six months ago I wasn't even sure I would graduate let alone be standing here in front of the class. One day I had that deer in the headlight look and one of my classmates that I had never known before noticed. He asked me 'you good?' in the way of the military so no one looks weak. I was so grateful I could not even respond. It is because of him I am here. And at that moment I committed myself to helping others in the class."

Technology Service Corps San Francisco Bay Area is currently accepting applications for its second class of veterans. Learn more about eligibility requirements and how to apply at npower.org.

About NPower and Technology Service Corps:

NPower mobilizes the tech community and provides individuals, nonprofits, and schools opportunities to build tech skills and achieve their potential. Technology Service Corps builds brighter futures for underserved young adults and veterans by providing free technology and professional skills training, mentoring, internships and employment services. Technology Service Corps has graduated over 1,000 young adults and veterans.

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