



For Immediate Release

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**NPower Technology Service Corps Dallas
Graduates Class 2 of Armed-Forces Veterans**

DALLAS (June 13, 2014) – Last night, 37 proud armed-forces veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars will graduate from NPower’s Technology Service Corps Dallas, an innovative, veteran-focused technology job training program. Five of these new program graduates have been selected to receive special awards. Retired General Robin Akin will be giving the commencement address.

Ceremonies will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Chase office at 14221 Dallas Parkway in Addison.

JPMorgan Chase has committed \$5 million toward workforce training in Dallas – including support of NPower - as part of its unprecedented five-year, \$250 million global New Skills at Work initiative. New Skills at Work is the largest ever private-sector effort aimed at addressing the skills gap. Like many cities, Dallas does not train enough skilled workers to fill jobs that are readily available.

Retired Army Master Sergeant Duane Davis, Manager of the Dallas NPower program, said nearly all of the graduates have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, with several having been deployed more than once. These individuals were selected to participate in the Technology Service Corps program from among 1800 initial leads with the help of several Texas veterans groups, including the Texas Veterans Commission. “NPower’s Technology Service Corps provides the foundation and tools to make a positive difference in the lives of veterans and their families,” said Davis. “This is a great program that provides me with the opportunity to serve those who served.”

Kris Falvo, Regional Director for NPower Dallas said the NPower’s Dallas staff is composed of five armed-services veterans, giving them unique insight into the challenges faced by program participants, as well as the tremendous opportunities presented by Technology Service Corps.

Through the Technology Service Corps program, graduates participated in 12 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. Thomas Brown, Class 2 student stated, “I feel that the program has given my peers and me the skills, tools, and network to start a career in the IT field. Through the program I have increased my technical knowledge, strengthened my interpersonal skills, and created a strong network of peers that I will be able to carry with me throughout my IT career. This program is all about what you put into it and the positivity you bring to it. Success is all about the right mix of determination, perseverance, and luck. I was lucky to have the opportunity to go through this program and I think my peers feel the same.”



In the final seven weeks, the Technology Service Corps graduates completed apprenticeships with program partners, including Citi, AmerisourceBergen, Land Records, CA Technologies, Edge Communications, TEKsystems, Deloitte, U S Surgical International, Dallas County Community College District, New Vision, TD Ameritrade and Exer Software Solutions. Additionally, support of the Dallas Technology Service Corps program was generously provided by Bank of America, Citi HP, HealthMarkets, J.P. Morgan Chase, PepsiCo, The Prudential Foundation, Janet Weinberg Foundation and the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas.

The 2014 Class 2 award-winning graduates are:

- Jaden Nanny will receive the AcceleratingED Commitment to Excellence Award. He served six years in the Air Force as an Electronic Warfare Systems Specialist. He interned at TEKsystems.
- Donald Barnett received the J.P. Morgan Chase Leadership and Community Service Award. He served eight years in the Army as a Systems Installer. He interned at CITI.
- Rodney Lewis, a 16-year Army veteran, received the Dallas County Community College District Serving Those Who Serve Award. Lewis served as a Military Defense Artillery Officer. He interned with Exer Software Solutions.
- Stephanie Deason, a 9 year Marine served as a Supply and Accounting Administrator, received the CITI Innovation Award. She interned at Deloitte Services and was also chosen as our Class 2 speaker.
- Jeremy Rogers received the U S Surgical International Performance Award. He served 10 years in the Marines as a Marksmanship Instructor. He interned at U S Surgical International.

Stephanie Cuskley, NPower Chief Executive Officer shared, “On behalf of NPower’s Board of Directors, staff and many partners, we are thrilled to be working so closely with the Dallas community. The success of our Technology Service Corps program is a great example of the tech community coming together to help young people and veterans achieve brighter futures through careers in the tech industry, which is the core of NPower’s mission.”

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. Founded in New York City in 2002, Technology Service Corps has since graduated over 800 young adults and veterans. While NPower Dallas serves 100 veterans per year, the nonprofit is also expanding to San Francisco to serve veterans and into Toronto to help underserved young adults later in 2014.

For more information on NPower, please go to www.npower.org.

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