



# Florida's Pathway to Creating Jobs and Building Veteran Owned Businesses



By Florida Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll, U.S. Navy Ret.

As Governor Rick Scott's designee to serve on the Florida Defense Support Task Force, I am able to put my military experience and belief in a strong national defense to work supporting Florida's military installations, service members and businesses that thrive, thanks to Florida being the most military-friendly state in America. I also get to serve on this Task Force with other great Floridians who freely give of their time and talent to keep Florida's military strong. One of my fellow Task Force members, Major General Joseph J. Taluto, U.S. Army Retired, has taken his passion for the troops and helped develop an outstanding organization called Veterans' Pathway to Business Success.

This program combines two of the most important issues facing Florida today: creating jobs and supporting our Veterans. Veterans' Pathway to Business Success is doing it – without taking a dime from government to do it.

Here's how it works: Veterans' Pathway to Business Success provides returning Veterans of the U.S. armed services, who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, the opportunity to start or grow their business by funding their endeavor with no fees, no interest and no payback.

Veterans' Pathway to Business Success, a grant program for returning veterans, is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization created to solicit and provide funds exclusively for qualified veterans who served post 9/11 in Iraq or Afghanistan. Veterans' Pathway works in conjunction with SCORE's South Palm Beach chapter by providing grants to those that do the following:

- ★ Apply and are selected to receive training through SCORE South Palm Beach Veterans Training Program.
- ★ Are recommended to Veterans' Pathway by SCORE South Palm Beach upon completion of business training and mentorship.

Approved Veteran's Pathway applicants will be eligible to receive a grant. This is not a loan. There is never a requirement to repay any funds received.

Boynton Beach Army Veteran Fred Pollino recently became the first Veteran to win a grant through Veterans' Pathway to Business Success. As Florida's Lieutenant Governor, I thank General Taluto and his partners at Veterans' Pathway to Business Success for creating this grant program to help our fellow Veterans find business success and create jobs for Floridians.

**Florida is headed in the right direction!**

Florida Lieutenant Governor Jennifer Carroll  
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## VETERANS' PATHWAY to Business Success

*A grant program for Florida's veterans who have served in Afghanistan or Iraq.*



*L to Right: Hal Finkelstein, Chairman South Palm Beach SCORE; Fred Pollino, Army Veteran and recipient of the Veterans' Pathway to Business Success Grant; Jerry Kramer, President of Veterans' Pathway to Business Success; and Major General Joseph J. Taluto, U.S. Army Retired, Vice President of Veterans' Pathway to Business Success*