

# Press Release

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## **CAREERSOURCE PINELLAS RECEIVES DUKE ENERGY/TAMPA BAY RAYS PARTNERSHIP GRANT TO SUPPORT VETERAN SERVICES**

### *Victories for Veterans Grant Supports Veterans' Transition into the Workforce*

**PINELLAS COUNTY (September 27, 2016)** – CareerSource Pinellas is pleased to announce the award of \$10,000 from Victories for Veterans, a partnership between Duke Energy and the Tampa Bay Rays. The CareerSource Pinellas Victories for Veterans grant will serve over 200 veterans by promoting awareness of veteran services, offering employability skills workshops and providing immediate, flexible, transitional supportive services customized to meet the needs of the individual veteran.

Each day, CareerSource Pinellas assists veterans in preparing for interviews and obtaining employment through job referral and matching services, job development and training, and career management. In addition, there are services available to veterans with barriers to employment. Each career center has full-time staff trained and dedicated to helping all eligible, qualified veterans in their career goals. The Victories for Veterans funding will allow the organization to serve a greater number of our local veterans.

For every game the Rays won this season, the Duke Energy Foundation committed to contribute \$1,000 to charities that support veterans in our community. The funding requests were so impactful; Duke Energy went above and beyond and is investing \$90,600 in 10 area non-profits.

“Serving our communities is an integral part of Duke Energy’s culture and we are especially honored to help support our veterans through employee volunteer events, by actively hiring veterans – we employ nearly 2,000 veterans at Duke Energy, and through initiatives like this,” said Alex Glenn, state president, Duke Energy – Florida. “The organizations that are benefiting from the ‘Victories for Veterans’ program offer invaluable services to local veterans and we are proud to invest in them.”

The implementation of this initiative is in direct response to the needs of veterans who are seeking and are in need of transitional supportive services. The potential impact of this project is critical and life changing for veterans. It is an opportunity to enable veterans to overcome transitional issues to pursue activities that can lead to a better self-supporting future.

On October 5<sup>th</sup> CareerSource Pinellas will host a career fair at the EpiCenter at St. Petersburg College (13805 58<sup>th</sup> Street North) in Clearwater from 12:00pm – 3:00pm. Veterans will receive priority of service at the event. For more information about CareerSource Pinellas’ services for Veterans or the upcoming career fair, please visit [www.careersourcepinellas.com](http://www.careersourcepinellas.com).

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#### **About CareerSource Pinellas**

CareerSource Pinellas establish workforce development and training policies for Pinellas County. For more information on our valuable, no cost resources for businesses and job seekers, please visit [www.careersourcepinellas.com](http://www.careersourcepinellas.com).

#### **Duke Energy Florida**

Duke Energy Florida owns coal-fired and natural gas generation providing about 9,100 megawatts of owned electric capacity to approximately 1.7 million customers in a 13,000-square-mile service area. With its Florida regional headquarters located in St. Petersburg, Fla., Duke Energy is one of the largest electric power holding companies in the United States. Its regulated utility operations serve approximately 7.4 million electric customers located in six states in the Southeast and Midwest, representing a population of approximately 24 million people. Its Commercial Portfolio and International business segments own and operate diverse power generation assets in North America and Latin America, including a growing portfolio of renewable energy assets in the United States.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Duke Energy is a Fortune 125 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available at [duke-energy.com](http://duke-energy.com). The Duke Energy News Center serves as a multimedia resource for journalists and features news releases, helpful links, photos and videos. Hosted by Duke Energy, illumination is an online destination for stories about remarkable people, innovations, and community and environmental topics. It also offers glimpses into the past and insights into the future of energy.

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